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THE SESSION.

WE gladly avail ourselves of the opportunity which the closing of the Parliamentary Session affords to turn from the contemplation of the troubled sea of foreign politics to take a glance at the calmer domain of domestic affairs. At the very threshold of the subject two things strike us as being both remarkable and gratifying—the absence of political strife among ourselves, and the quietude that reigns within our borders as compared with the state of almost every

other country. In the midst of troubles and uneasiness elsewhere, her Majesty dismisses Parliament with the grateful assurance that peace reigns within her wide dominions, with the single exception of the small war that has just broken out in New Zealand; and the members of the two houses, in "returning to their several counties," will find no other source of anxiety than that for which, though serious in itself, neither Queen, nor Parliament, nor people is responsible. The state of the manufacturing districts cannot

fail to weigh heavily on the minds of all; but it is consolatory to know that the evil itself is greatly diminished, and that much has been done both to mitigate the distress that remains, and to provide a remedy should the present favourable state of things not be lasting. In the prospect of an early and abundant harvest, too, we have another source of comfort, and a promise that the suffering which a series of unproductive years has caused in Ireland will speedily disappear. Altogether, the circumstances under which the



SERGEANT JAMES ROBERTS, WINNER OF THE QUEEN'S PRIZE AT WIMBLEDON.

Session closes are such as may well awaken feelings of grateful satisfaction. True, the horizon is not altogether cloudless: there are specks visible in the political sky which, though at present no bigger than a man's hand, may yet envelop us and Europe in the lurid canopy of a general war. But we trust that wise and prudent counsels will, as we believe they may, avert that great danger.

The Session just closed has, it is said, been a barren one. There has been little positive legislation; there have been no great debates; no leading political topic has been discussed; party strife has been absent; and we have not even received any important contribution to our stores of Parliamentary oratory. Well, all this may be true, and yet be a source of satisfaction rather than regret. That political changes have not been urged shows that the people are pretty well satisfied with existing institutions, and have ceased to care for change merely for its own sake. Had any class of the community suffered from a real grievance, we may be sure it would have found a voice within the walls of Parliament. Political agitation has ceased to interest the people, simply because it has ceased to have a cause: and the days have gone by when the struggles of this or that faction for power were capable of raising a turmoil in the country. Extension of the franchise, the ballot, and shortening the duration of Parliament attract but little attention nowadays. Financial, legal, and social reforms are now the great themes of public interest. Our commercial policy may be considered as perfected: some anomalies may still exist in the levying of the public taxes, but they are not of pressing importance; our expenditure is still large, but we have entered upon a course of retrenchment, and the continued elasticity of the revenue indicates that the resources of the country are unimpaired and its general prosperity satisfactory. Of legal reforms each Session gives us an instalment, if a small one; and that just closed has not been deficient in this respect, the measure carried by the Lord Chancellor for a revision of the statutes being in itself a valuable contribution to law reform. The bill for augmenting the incomes of small benefices is one which is well calculated to improve the position of the Church by lessening the anomalies which that institution exhibits, and to render the labours of her ministers more effectual and acceptable to the people. Of positive social reforms the Session may not have produced much, but discussions have taken place which will prepare the ground for future legislation in this direction. We must not, however, overlook the step that has been taken this Session towards a great and important social improvement in the abolition of turnpike tolls throughout the whole northern portion of the metropolis, a step which must ultimately lead to the abolition of these annoying obstructions to locomotion throughout the entire kingdom. The adoption of Mr. Sheridan's resolution on the duty on fire insurances is another event of the Session which must soon lead to a valuable reform, and bring about the abolition of that most unwise tax upon prudence and forethought. The debates which have taken place in reference to our great Universities, and the relaxing of the tests and obstructions which prevent the community at large from deriving the full benefit which these valuable institutions are calculated to confer, will no doubt in due time bear fruit. It is impossible that such institutions as the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, which are emphatically the property of the whole nation, should long remain the exclusive monopoly of a section only. Dissenters as well as Churchmen have a right to participate in the benefits conferred by these Universities, so far, at least, as training for secular pursuits is concerned; and the right will continue to be urged till the enjoyment of it is conceded. A spirit of higher conscientiousness is showing itself generally; and even Churchmen object to be bound by formulas which may have been suited to the state of things three hundred years ago but are utterly at variance with opinion now. Besides, tests invariably defeat their professed object; they admit those whom they are designed to exclude, and exclude those whom it is desirable to admit. Men of easy conscience and loose principles accept the tests without scruple, while honest minds and tender consciences are compelled to reject them. The Church and the Universities are themselves the greatest sufferers from the maintenance of the system of tests: they lose the services of many valuable and high-minded teachers; and are liable to have their ranks crowded by men of questionable moral rectitude, to put the matter in the mildest possible form.

There is one feature which has largely developed itself in the Parliamentary proceedings of late years which is deserving of notice. We allude to discussions on the internal affairs of other nations. A few years ago the complaint used to be made that neither Parliament nor the public could be got to interest themselves in foreign politics. The same reproach cannot be made to either now. Foreign affairs occupy a large share in the Parliamentary debates; they fill a still larger space in the columns of our newspapers; and in private circles and discussion halls they enjoy almost an entire monopoly of attention. Why is this? Partly, no doubt, because other countries have recently been the scenes of unusually stirring events; but mainly, we believe, because our domestic affairs are on the whole in so satisfactory a state that little excitement is to be extracted out of discussions upon them. And this we deem a fact peculiarly satisfactory. "Happy is the man whose life is devoid of interest." Happy, too, is the nation whose affairs afford small scope for debate. We have so little to quarrel about now among ourselves, that we can well afford to devote a large share of our attention to those things which concern our neighbours. That this growing habit is susceptible of abuse, and that, if such dis-

cussions were conducted in an incautious and intemperate spirit, they might lead to inconvenient results, is true: but, on the whole, Parliament generally exhibits a wise and prudent reserve in dealing with foreign topics. During the past Session this has been exemplified in reference both to Poland and to America. Enough was said in the various debates on Poland to show the feeling entertained of the conduct of Russia, while nothing that occurred could irritate even her sensibilities or embarrass pending negotiations. A like course has been pursued with regard to America. We some weeks since stated the reasons which we conceive entitle us to recognise the Southern Confederacy should we deem such a course politic; but we reserved then, and we reserve now, the exclusive right of judging as to the proper time and circumstances when that recognition shall take place. In effect, Parliament has done the same; and while the rights of England, in common with those of other nations, have been asserted, nothing has been said or done to compromise us with either belligerent, or fetter our own action when the proper time to act arrives. We congratulate the public and the Senate on this circumstance, and trust that our national councils will always be distinguished by like wisdom.

THE WINNER OF THE QUEEN'S PRIZE AT WIMBLEDON.

THE recent contest at Wimbledon sufficiently proves not only that the volunteer movement maintains its full vitality throughout the country, but that the members of the various corps have continued their shooting practice. It would be difficult to say to which prize the greatest interest was attached, but it may, at least, be conceded that the winner of the Queen's prize was, in some sort, the hero of the occasion.

Mr. James Roberts, the successful competitor for this coveted reward, is a native of Tilstock, in Shropshire, where he was born on the 6th of January, 1831. He at present resides at Wem, near Shrewsbury, and, having joined the 12th Shropshire Rifles on its first enrolment, is now a sergeant of the corps. After a short course of instruction at Hythe under General Hay, in 1861, Mr. Roberts came away with the marksman's badge and sectional prize, and the same year obtained the third Shropshire county prize at the meeting held at the seat of Viscount Hill, Hawkestone Park. At the county competition in the following year (1862) he won the challenge cup. Until he competed at Wimbledon, Mr. Roberts had been unaccustomed to the Whitworth Rifle, and had never shot at a longer range than six hundred yards.

Our engraving represents the last stage for the Queen's prize during the contest, when General Hay was present watching the effects of the firing through a field-glass, and Lord Grosvenor, straw-hatted but anxious, waited for the result.

Our Portrait of Mr. Roberts is taken from a photograph by Mr. Herbert Watkins.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

In Paris the public are in a state of suspense and excitement awaiting the Emperor's decision on the nature of the reply to be sent to Prince Gortschakoff's despatch. The *Moniteur* maintains an ominous silence, and the belief in war consequently becomes stronger and wider every day. This belief is strengthened by the military and naval preparations that are being made. The iron-clad fleet is all but ready for service, and it is anticipated its capabilities will be shortly tested against the stone forts of Cronstadt. It is understood that the French Ambassador at St. Petersburg has sent home despatches to his Government pointing out the great irritation felt by the Government of the Czar at the interference of the three Powers, and that a diplomatic rupture may be expected. It is also reported that Baron Brunnow and Baron Budberg have received telegraphic orders from St. Petersburg to hold themselves in readiness to leave London and Paris at a short notice. These reports, though probably either premature or exaggerated, are generally believed, and the public mind is so completely absorbed in the Polish question that no other topic receives the least attention.

ITALY.

The Italian Government has surrendered the five brigands captured at Genoa, but France undertakes to keep them in prison till the demand for their redelivery to Italy under the extradition treaty has been made and examined. The result will probably be that these desperadoes will suffer for their crimes.

Accounts from Naples of the 25th ult. state that brigandage has again increased in the Capitanata. Colonel Funel has been sent against the bands in Calabria. Four captains of the National Guard have been assassinated near Naples.

PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Liberal deputies returning home from their abruptly-closed Parliamentary labours have been received everywhere with great honour. In especial the people of the Rhenish provinces have distinguished themselves in these demonstrations. Several municipalities have sent addresses to the King, protesting against the late measures of the Cabinet. The newspapers are not allowed to publish or even to notice these addresses, but his Majesty, nevertheless, cannot avoid receiving them.

RUSSIA.

A correspondent, writing from St. Petersburg on the 22nd ult., says that "gloom and depression reign in that city, an anxious foreboding of impending trouble weighs down the energies of her people, and, uncertain of the future, men know not how to act. Yet this doubt and hesitation are not that of cowardice; and, if the anticipated trial has to be encountered, it will be gallantly and nobly met. Circumstances have convinced the Russian people that the Western Powers intend war; that the protracted negotiations which so wearily elaborate themselves are but a repetition of those which, ten years since, inaugurated the Crimean campaign; and they regard them but as the ordinary prelude of strife, the setting the chessmen in array ere the game of aggrandisement is commenced. They do not under-estimate the gravity of the issue; they know it will tax all their resources, demand all their energies. They see before them a long vista of sacrifice and blood; but the honour and integrity of Russia are involved, and they will not shrink from the ordeal."

CIRCASSIA.

The Paris papers publish a Constantinople telegram of the 24th ult., which asserts that the Circassians have captured, by boarding, a Russian man-of-war, bound for Soukoum Kalch, and have carried her into Schoubschik.

DENMARK.

Denmark is said to be preparing energetically for the war with which Germany threatens her on the question of the Duchies. Royal decrees are renewing the arrangements with regard to military quarterings, "because circumstances might render the application of them necessary;" and the Minister of Marine is inviting the captains of merchant vessels to enter the naval service of the State as lieutenants.

GREECE.

Letters from Athens to the 19th assert that a battle was commanded

by Leotzakas, which recently left the capital, had taken possession of the citadel of Nauplia. The Trafalgar, English man-of-war, had left for Nauplia.

MEXICO.

At the date of the last advices yellow fever was raging at Vera Cruz. The French were about to take possession of Tampico, to prevent the exportation of silver from that port. The French now hold Vera Cruz, Orizaba, Puebla, and Mexico. It is believed that it will take about 100,000 men to hold the whole country.

La France asserts that information received via Havannah proves that President Juarez has been wholly abandoned by his troops; that he has, in consequence, renounced his intention of occupying San Luis Potosi, and that he is making his way towards the Pacific coast in the hope of being able to embark for New York.

THE INSURRECTION IN POLAND.

A telegram from Cracow brings an account of a battle fought between the Russians and the Poles in the district of Lublin, which possesses more than ordinary importance. The combined detachments of several Polish leaders attacked a large Russian force under a general officer. The Russians were completely defeated, and fled in disorder towards the town of Lublin. The Russians are reported to have lost 700 men in killed alone. The Polish bands are scouring the province in all directions. They have seized several Russian couriers who were bearing official despatches—among the rest, a reply to an application for reinforcements, which the Commander-in-Chief declared himself unable to grant. Some other rather serious conflicts with the Russian troops are also announced, the Poles having had the advantage in every instance.

A Breslau despatch affirms that in a decree published on the 21st the Revolutionary Government of Warsaw pronounced sentence of death on Colonel Leichte, the inquisitor of the citadel under the reign of Nicholas, who had recently resumed his functions in the commission of inquiry. The very night after the publication of the decree, Colonel Leichte was poniarded by some person unknown. The National Government has also published a decree respecting the estates confiscated by the Emperor Nicholas and Alexander II. in the Polish provinces, and given to Russian Generals and functionaries. These estates are declared national property; the peasants who cultivate them are exonerated from the payment of all dues, and the farmers and manufacturers who occupy any of these estates are charged to pay the rents into the national treasury of Poland.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

GENERAL NEWS.

General Meade officially announced to General Halleck, on the 14th ult., that General Lee and his whole army had crossed the Potomac at Falling Waters, with the exception of one brigade of 1500 men, two guns, two caissons, and a number of small arms, which were captured by the Federals. The Confederate army are said to have carried off immense stores of every description, for which, however, they paid in Southern scrip or receipts. While in Maryland and Pennsylvania, General Lee rigidly prohibited pilaging or destruction of private property.

General Lee, when last heard of, was at Front Royal, making the best of his way towards Richmond. General Meade was pursuing him. He had taken several Confederate prisoners—probably stragglers—in Lee's rear.

The Federals had recommenced their attack on Charleston. After some loss, they obtained possession of the whole of Morris Island except Fort Wagner, the siege of which they were pushing with the aid of five monitors. General Gilmore had officially reported that on the 11th he attempted to carry Fort Wagner, on Morris Island, by assault. The parapet was gained, but the supports could not be got up. General Gilmore captured eleven pieces of heavy ordnance and a quantity of camp equipage. Another attack upon Fort Wagner was arranged. Letters from Charleston of the 12th state that five ironclads and fifteen gun-boats were off Fort Sumter. Ten gun-boats, one 40-gun frigate, and the new Ironsides were passing the bar. The Federal batteries on Morris Island would take part in the bombardment of Fort Sumter.

The fall of Port Hudson had followed that of Vicksburg. The fortress surrendered unconditionally on the 9th ult. Unofficial advices state that the garrison of Port Hudson numbered 7000, with thirty-five field-pieces, twenty-five siege guns, and 10,000 stand of arms.

Immediately after the surrender of Vicksburg General Sherman marched against General Johnston, and is said to have defeated him after a very sanguinary engagement. This, however, was stated to be doubtful; and later Vicksburg advices report General Sherman to be still pursuing General Johnston. General Rosecrans was pressing forwards, and General Bragg's army was said to have retreated from Chattanooga to Atlanta.

Confederate General Morgan had sacked Jackson, Ohio. He was reported to be hemmed in by the Federals.

Amid the many extraordinary circumstances of the time, the sudden collapse of the reputation of General Meade is not the least striking. The note has sounded in Washington that he has served his turn, and he will doubtless be thrown aside without remorse. It was not enough that he should repulse General Lee at Gettysburg. It was his duty, prescribed for him by Mr. Stanton, that he should annihilate the Confederate army—even though it were impossible. Mr. Stanton, like the great Napoleon, does not admit the impossibility of anything, and the safe retreat of General Lee across the Potomac, with bag and baggage, ammunition, and artillery, and all the immense supplies which he obtained in Pennsylvania, is held to be the unpardonable sin which is to unfit General Meade for the future command of the army of the Potomac. Already his deposition is openly urged by the friends of the Government in and out of the press. General Meade has achieved glory enough. He must not be allowed to gather any more laurels. Mediocrity in high places is jealous alike of his merit and his modesty, and he is forthwith to be consigned to an inferior command in some less conspicuous place, or sent, like Burnside, to dragoon his own countrymen, so that he may become unpopular, and therefore innocuous to the Administration.

Official correspondence between Mr. Stephens and President Davis shows that the object of the proposed mission of Mr. Stephens to Washington was the establishment of a fresh cartel for the exchange of prisoners, and to place the war upon the footing of hostilities waged by modern civilised nations, divesting it of the savage character which had been impressed upon it by the Federals, in spite of all the efforts and protests of the Confederates.

TERRIBLE RIOTS IN NEW YORK.

THE telegraphic news published in our last week's Number intimated that disturbances had broken out in New York in consequence of the attempt to enforce the conscription. These riots, of which we have now full details, were of the most serious description, and have resulted in an immense destruction of life and property. For several days the mob was literally in possession of New York, and free, almost without let or hindrance, to work their will.

On Saturday morning, the 11th of July, New York was profoundly tranquil. The draught was proceeding; there were some crowds in front of the offices, but no signs of dissension were to be observed. The day wore on, however, and the temper of the people began to change. When work was done, and the labouring classes commenced talking over the conscription, it became apparent that an angry and dangerous spirit was abroad. Men sat up late that night, and women with them—the latter shrill and vehement in their exhortations to resistance. The few advocates of the conscription were quickly silenced; and gradually the feeling grew, from one of sullen discontent, into a fierce determination to oppose the law. The church bells rang out, as usual, on Sunday; the city was still quiet, but angry men were meeting together; the dissension had deepened, and an organisation was being formed, silently, secretly, but steadily. Next day would bring fighting, so the working men searched eagerly for weapons. All through Sunday such preparations lasted, the popular feeling growing deeper every hour, and

the expressions of it rising from mere dull murmurs of dissatisfaction into threats and menaces.

Monday morning came. The day, in New York as in London, is the usual holiday of a large portion of the labouring classes; but so many never stayed away from their work before. Factories were silent, stores were shut; but the labourers, for all that, were neither idle nor asleep. Early in the morning about 2000 of them met in Twenty-second ward; they formed in procession and marched through the streets to the hoarse music of a gong. As they proceeded their number increased, and at last their leaders felt strong enough for the task on which they were bent. The draughting was progressing quietly—amongst other places, at the Provost Marshal's office in the Ninth District—at ten o'clock, when the advanced guard of this mob made its appearance. A moment's pause took place, and then a stone was hurled at the head of the Provost Marshal. Instantly a rush was made at the building; doors and windows were broken in; the ballot-boxes, the revolving wheels, the list of conscripts, all were torn to pieces; and next a smothering smell of smoke, a sudden cry of "Fire!" and in another moment the flames were leaping and darting through the house. The crowd stood staring at their handiwork—a strange gathering of men, armed with sticks and stones, axes and adzes, old saws and swords, bars of iron and heavy clubs; and of women, unsexed by their fury, who shrieked their glee as the flames were seen to spread. There was no great fear of interruption. The police were few in number; the militia were absent; and, lest regular troops should be sent for, the rioters had already cut the telegraphic wires. Thus, when the firemen came to the spot, the mob plainly and positively refused to allow them to work, and they were compelled to look on quietly and observe the rapid progress of the conflagration. Meanwhile a cry was raised that Kennedy, the superintendent of police, was amongst the throng. He was quickly recognised, attacked, and most savagely beaten. Suddenly an orator mounted upon a table—it was the chief engineer of the fire department. Pointing with his hands to the flames which were so rapidly extending themselves, he asked the people whether they had not done enough. He was cheered, and the firemen got ready for their work; but at this juncture the police advanced, and were received with such a volley of stones and bricks that they had to beat an immediate retreat, and were roughly handled as they fled.

As the crowd surged and eddied to and fro the rumour rose that the troops were at hand. A hoarse cry of defiance answered the news. It was now nearly twelve o'clock; the streets were thronged with peaceable spectators, as well as with the rioters; eager sight-seers had perched themselves on housetops and window-sills; the street railway had ceased to run, and the roofs of the carriages were laden with people; there was shouting and cheering, waving of flags, ringing of fire-bells. Into this wild tumult marched, in good military order, well armed and equipped, forty men of the Provost's Guard. Angry murmurs of reproach saluted them; occasionally fellows purposely jostled against them; but there was no active resistance offered until they reached the corner of Forty-second-street. Here three thousand armed men, brandishing their weapons, barred the way; the troops were warned back, but they merely drew their ranks closer and advanced. A shower of missiles met them, and then for a moment there was a fearful lull as the soldiers brought their weapons from "order arms" to the shoulder. Not a word was heard, no orders seemed to be given, but a volley was poured into the crowd. The next moment, as if terrified at their own conduct, the soldiers broke and ran. It was a brief race for many of them, and scant mercy was shown to those who fell. With horrible mutilations the infuriated rabble wreaked its vengeance. In its fierce lust for mischief it burnt and laid waste the Coloured Orphan Asylum and other buildings; and then, gathering together in front of a shanty, the roof of which was covered with well-dressed people, it cried out for a "speech." An orator stepped forward—a man with heavy moustache and enormous whiskers—and urged them on in their career of destruction. For a whole day New York was utterly under the control of the populace; the Mayor's house was only saved by a speech from Judge Barnard; and all night the sky was red with fire.

On Tuesday the authorities, startled and surprised at first, took vigorous measures for tramping out what was fast becoming an insurrection; but the fortunes of the day were various, and not always on the side of order. Business was completely at a standstill; the Governor issued a warning proclamation; special constables were enrolled; the available troops were massed in the thoroughfares; but, nevertheless, the day did not pass without its horrors. The negroes in particular were the victims of the most bloodthirsty brutality, and during forty-eight hours it is estimated that no less than a hundred and fifty of them were either killed or wounded. The fighting was fierce; at times both musketry and artillery failed to disperse the multitude; but no resistance was ever effectual when the soldiers employed the bayonet. It was after a contest of this description that a Colonel O'Brien, who had been specially active in ordering the troops to fire, was observed to dismount from his horse, and to enter a drug store. At once there was a gathering round the door; scarcely a word was spoken; with the silence of death the men waited for their victim. One minute after he had left the place, armed with sword and revolver, he was beaten down; and then, whilst still alive, he was hung up by a rope to a lamp-post. They cut him down, and found that life was not yet extinct; nevertheless, his body was flung into the street, and dragged about by men and women, until at length the strong man's vigour failed him, and he died.

In spite of every precaution taken by the authorities the violence and disorder of Tuesday exceeded those of Monday. Several bloody encounters took place between the populace and the police and military. In the early part of the day a couple of companies of Marines were coming up Deaneey-street from the Ferry, when, as they reached the corner of Pitt-street, they met a large procession of men, headed by a banner bearing the inscription, "No draught." The Marines filed three abreast, when the leader stepped up to the Lieutenant in command, saying: "Let us pass, Sir." "You cannot pass here," was the laconic reply. Nothing daunted, the leader called to his adherents to come on, and started to advance in spite of the Marines, when the latter were ordered to fire. The ringleader and eight others were shot dead, and several were wounded, including two women and one or two children. One of the most fearful conflicts of the day took place in Second-avenue. It was known to the mob that some hundreds of carbines were hidden away by the authorities in the Union Steam Works building, and the place was accordingly forced and plundered by the rioters. While thus engaged a force of 300 police, under Inspector Dilks, arrived on the ground, and quickly assembled around the entrance of the building. The rioters on the inside were notified by their confederates on the street, but the alarm came too late, and as the mob attempted to escape, throwing away their guns, they had to run the gauntlet of a file of police, and but few escaped a terrible application of the clubs. Some limped away badly hurt, while half a dozen in a moment lay prostrate and insensible. Several hundreds of the rioters still remained in the building (which is a large one of brick, and many stories high), and seemingly were barricading themselves for protection against the police. Inspector Dilks gave the order for a portion of the force to enter the building, while the remainder guarded the places of exit. The policemen rushed in upon the mob, and, after a few moments of desperate fighting, the crowd gave way, many of them leaping from the windows, and others rushing to the doors for escape. The police remained triumphant for the moment, but some time afterwards the mob reassembled in still larger numbers, beat the police severely, and reoccupied the building. At half-past two o'clock a force of police and enrolled citizens, under Captain Helme, accompanied by a detachment of regulars under Captain Franklin, arrived in the vicinity, and were so placed as to take the factory by storm and disarm the mob at all hazards. The force was divided in squads, so as to come forward from all directions towards the building. The mob there were busily preparing themselves for a desperate resistance, and the surrounding streets were filled with an excited crowd. The police and military came briskly forward, and were received in many places with a storm of stones, brick, and

shot. The regulars fired at the crowd in each instance where they did not immediately disperse, and volleys were discharged down First and Second avenues as well as along Twenty-second-street. The policemen also made liberal use of their revolvers. The streets were cleared in a few moments, and the building containing the arms was again taken possession of. A large number of the rioters were killed and wounded, and many citizens who had taken no part in the acts of violence, as well as a number of women and children, were shot in the streets. Some of them were struck half a mile away from the scene of the riot. Four young girls were shot in Twenty-second-street, and a little boy, who was alone in First-avenue, near Twentieth-street, was shot through the shoulder. A well-dressed young man, while walking up First-avenue, near Nineteenth-street, was shot in the left breast, the ball passing through the body.

At two o'clock in the afternoon a company of eighty-eight men and four 32-pound howitzers, under command of Major Fearing, went to the corner of Eleventh-avenue and Forty-second-street, to disperse a crowd there sacking a jewellery store and firing buildings in the vicinity. There were about a thousand men in the mob, who were armed with pistols, clubs, knives, swords, &c. They were indeed a fierce looking set of men. At the appearance of the soldiers the mob fired on them, and a battle ensued which lasted over a quarter of an hour, and in which Major Fearing was severely wounded on the left temple. The soldiers were finally driven to the arsenal by the desperadoes, who attempted an attack upon the building. In Thirty-fourth-street there was also some desperate fighting from an early hour, as well as in various other portions of the city and in Brooklyn. The measures of the authorities, however, finally prevailed, and the riot was quelled; but, as it had been announced that the Government had determined to enforce the draught, it was feared that fresh riots would occur.

The New York correspondent of the *Times* says that, "contrary to all expectation, Provost Marshal General Fry, instructed by the President, has officially notified that the draught is to be enforced in every part of the country, and that the several Provost Marshals charged with its execution will be sustained by the military forces of the Federal Government. It would thus seem that Mr. Lincoln is resolved to try the strength of the Federal arm against the strength of the States, commencing with the State of New York. It is a desperate venture, and the direct inaugural of a revolution. Already the alarm that it has created is excessive. Dreading a renewal of mob violence, if not a contest between the forces of the Commander-in-Chief of the Federal armies and those of the equally legally-appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Militia and other forces of the State of New York, crowds of timid people are leaving the city, and those who have fewer fears for their own personal safety are sending their wives and children to remote rural districts and even to Canada. The city as yet is held by State troops alone, under the supreme authority of Governor Seymour, who has expressed his opinion that the draught is unconstitutional, who has called upon the President to postpone it until a legal decision could be taken upon it, whose remonstrances have been treated with contempt, and who, in case he should determine to make a stand in support of his opinions and his position, will be supported by the vast majority of the people of the State and city. Mr. Lincoln is a rash man; it remains to be seen whether he will be a fortunate one."

RESISTANCE TO THE DRAUGHT IN BOSTON.

Quite a disturbance, but hardly amounting to a riot, occurred in the north part of Boston on the 14th. It originated in an assault on David Howe, at a house in Prince-street, where Howe had called to serve a notice that the resident had been draughted. Some loafers interfered and beat Howe severely, when he was rescued by a policeman, but not before he was badly though not dangerously wounded. In the meantime the mob rapidly gathered, and a strong force of police was called out, when bricks, stones, and other missiles were thrown at them, by which some policemen were wounded. Some gunshots were fired, and several persons were reported to be killed. The outbreak, however, was quelled, and precautionary measures taken against further riotous demonstrations.

THE CONFLICTS AT CHAMBERSBURG AND UPPERVILLE.

Our Engravings represent two of the scenes which occurred just previous to the last advantages gained by the substitution of General Meade for "Fighting Joe Hooker;" and one of them (the fight at Upperville) was made of vast importance by the Federals as being one of the few decided successes they had achieved, and certainly one of the sharpest skirmishes which had occurred during the whole war.

Chambersburg, the capital of Franklin County, in Pennsylvania, had been successively occupied by both parties, and from being a neat and prosperous town, surrounded by a fine and fertile country, became a mere place of contention, having eventually fallen into the hands of the Confederates, whose cavalry charged through its streets and held the place in great force. This occurred on the 23rd of June, and the artist, from whose sketch our Engraving is taken, was himself made prisoner; but, previous to this, considerable excitement was manifested on the report of the progress of the Southern troops. The farmers from around Chambersburg removed to Shippensburg, and took with them all their stock of horses, in anticipation of the advance of the Confederates. The town of Shippensburg was one vast stable. The Confederates were scouting the country in all directions in search of horses. One night a traitor led them to a gap in the mountain near Greencastle, where they took sixty horses which had been secreted by citizens. The apparent object of the Southerners was to steal horses and run off negroes. Between Chambersburg and Greencastle a gentleman met a Confederate officer, followed by five contrabands, all of whom were mounted on captured horses. Along the line of railway, between this point and Harrisburg, hundreds of contrabands were proceeding to the latter place to escape the Confederate grasp. A train of cars was kept in readiness to depart east at a moment's notice of the approach of General Lee's troops. Some of the citizens of the place made preparations for a hasty exit in the event of an emergency.

The fight at Aldie and Upperville occurred on the 17th of June, on which day General Gregg's cavalry reached Aldie at two o'clock in the afternoon, and found two brigades of the Confederates in possession. After three hours' hard fighting these were compelled to give way, the command of the Federals having devolved principally on General Kilpatrick. For the last twenty minutes the fight was obstinate and the result uncertain; but the 6th Ohio (Major Steadman) was sent up the road to the left to support the Harris Light Cavalry, when the whole command, with the Major at its head, dashed into the fight just in time to decide the unequal contest. The Confederates were forced to abandon their position, and all who were not killed or captured fled precipitately up the hill. They made a short stand behind the fence, when a dash from a battalion of the 4th New York, called in from its position behind the battery, together with the other regiments already named, drove them pell-mell over the hill. The 1st Maine at about this time was called in from the left, and with the 1st Massachusetts, stationed on the Snicker's Gap road, sent to a position held by the second battalion of the 1th New York. The Confederates at this time charged down the same road and drove before them a squadron, when General Kilpatrick ordered the 1st Maine (Colonel Duntz), 1st Massachusetts (Lieutenant-Colonel Curtis), and a battalion of the 4th New York, under Colonel Cernola, to charge up the road. There was a little hesitancy at first, when General Kilpatrick, accompanied by Colonel Duty of the 1st Maine, and Captain Costar of General Pleasanton's Staff, went to the front and called upon the troops to follow. The Maine troops gave three cheers for General Kilpatrick, and the whole column made a dash up the road in the face of a terrible fire from carbines, rifles, and cannon, sweeping everything before them. This virtually ended the fight. The Confederates, after a little more skirmishing, fell back, and the Federal forces occupied their position.

Following this skirmish was that of Upperville on the 21st, at which place the Federal force advanced. Two squadrons of the Maine troops were ordered to charge through the town, supported by some other troops. Just beyond the town a considerable force of the Confederates was posted, and the 1st Maine, 6th Ohio, 10th

and 2nd New York, and 4th Pennsylvania charged upon them furiously. This charge was repulsed and returned by the enemy, who were checked in turn by the Federals. This attempt to break each other's lines was repeated until the forces were mixed up together in a close hand-to-hand conflict which lasted more than twenty minutes. Beside this, each party had placed sharpshooters by the stone walls along the road, so that there was a galling cross-fire going on during the charges. The officers and men on both sides fought like fiends, and General Kilpatrick nearly lost his own life in endeavouring to save that of the Colonel of a North Carolina regiment. Finally the Confederates yielded, and were driven back by General Kilpatrick's brigade, who pursued them until they were met by the fire from a battery, upon which they were recalled by General Gregg. Near Upperville the Confederates turned, and the 4th New York, with General Kilpatrick at their head, endeavoured to charge, but ultimately broke and left the General a prisoner; they re-formed, however, and rescued him by a second charge. General Kilpatrick, commanding the centre, led the men in person; Colonel Gregg commanded the left; and General Gregg with General Pleasanton were near the front all day, watching every movement, the former having a horse killed under him during the fight.

SCOTLAND.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE DUKE OF HAMILTON.—The mortal remains of the late William Alexander Archibald Hamilton Douglas, eleventh Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, Premier Peer of Scotland, and the possessor of many other titles, were, on Thursday, the 23rd ult., consigned to their last resting-place in the mausoleum in the palace grounds at Hamilton. Out of respect to the deceased, the shops of Hamilton were all closed and business was generally suspended, and the bells of the churches of all denominations tolled out their melancholy notes without intermission from two till four o'clock.

THE PROVINCES.

PRINCE ARTHUR IN WALES.—His Royal Highness Prince Arthur, accompanied by Major Elphinstone and Mr. J. Collins, arrived in Dolgelly, North Wales, on the evening of the 25th ult. A suite of apartments had been engaged for the Royal visitors at the Royal Hotel. Shortly after arriving the Royal party proceeded up the north side of the town to view the valley, and expressed themselves much delighted. On Sunday they attended church service in the morning at the picturesque little village of Llanellyd, two miles on the Barmouth-road, and in the afternoon in Dolgelly Church. His Royal Highness has since ascended to the top of Cader Idris.

THE DISTRESS IN THE MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS.—The usual weekly meeting of the Central Executive Committee was held in the Manchester Townhall on Monday afternoon.—Sir J. P. Kay Shuttleworth, Bart., in the chair. The honorary secretary stated that the balance in the bank was £288,742 11s. 11d., and that £269 had been received during the week. He had also received a letter from Messrs. Thomas Agnew and Sons enclosing a cheque for £696 2s., being the amount received in full for 663 tickets disposed of in the Art-Union for Mr. Ansell's picture of "The Hunted Slaves." The cost of advertising had been paid by Messrs. Agnew and Son. Mr. Commissioner Farnall read his weekly report, stating that on the 18th ult. there was a decrease in the number receiving relief in the twenty-seven unions, as compared with the previous week, of 3297. Since the 6th of December there has been a decrease of 127,547. On the date above named there were 141,636 persons receiving parochial relief, showing an increase of 26,815, as compared with the corresponding week in 1861. The total weekly cost of out-relief on the 18th ult. was £3903, showing an increase of £6184 over the corresponding period of 1861. Mr. Farnall further reported that he and Mr. Rawlinson had personally conferred with the local authorities of 149 places, and the majority had expressed their satisfaction with the Public Works Bill and their readiness to adopt its provisions.

KING GEORGE AND KING OTHO.—A Copenhagen letter contains the following:—"A rather curious incident which occurred a few days back at the Hamburg International Exhibition is now forming the subject of conversation here. The young King George I., being there, found himself, while in one of the compartments of the division where the newly-invented agricultural machines were exhibited, close to King Otho. Every one remarked the embarrassment with which the newly-elected Sovereign was seized on being unexpectedly placed in presence of the Monarch whom he is about to succeed."

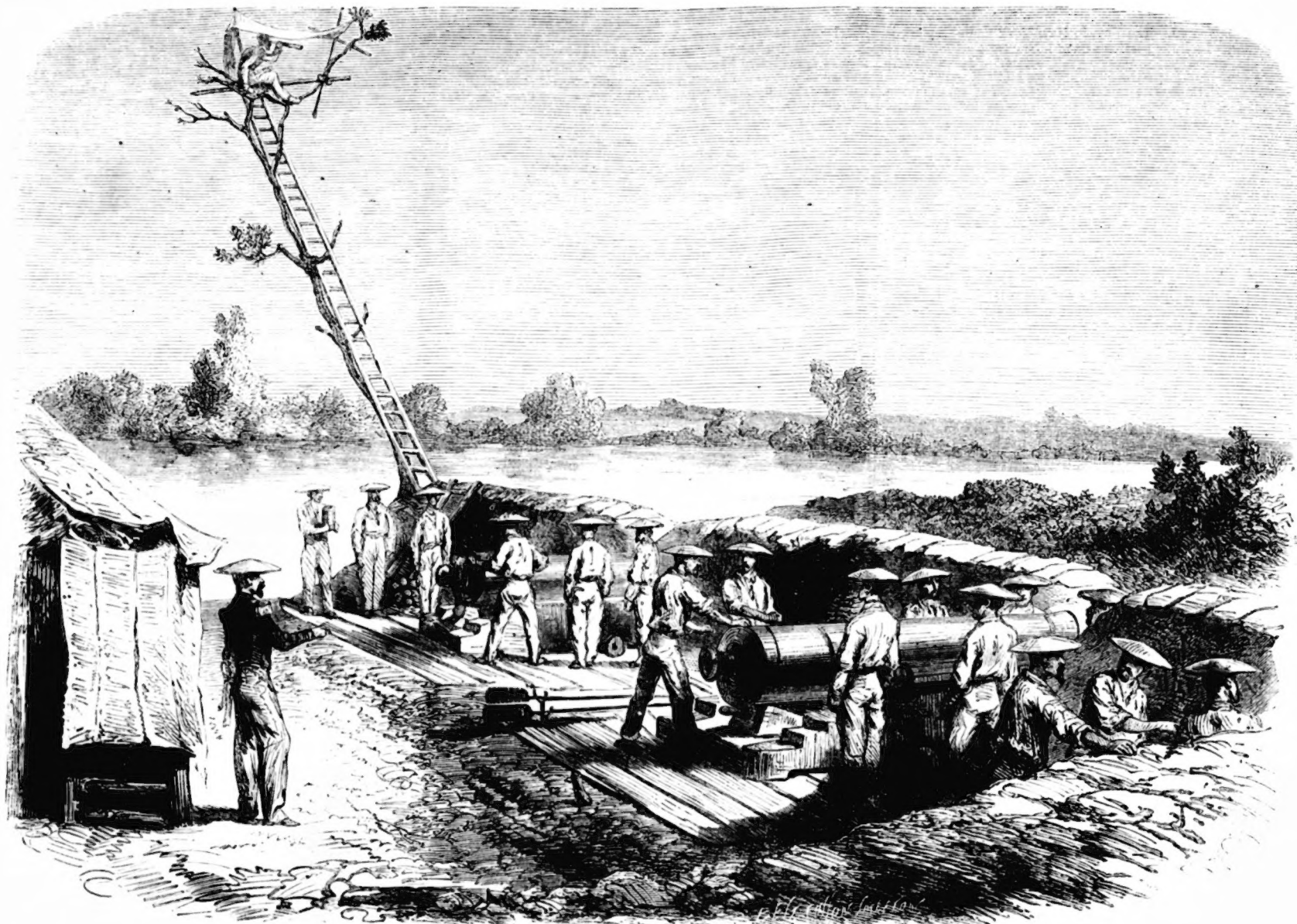
THE WEST INDIES.—The news from the West Indies is not so favourable as of late. At Barbados the coloured labourers had been showing their discontent at the reduction of wages, consequent on the low prices of sugar, by several acts of incendiarism; and the continued dry weather was causing apprehension for the new crop. Two shocks of earthquake had been experienced at Jamaica and Spanish Town, and St. Vincent had been visited by a very destructive storm. Porto Plata, San Domingo, had been almost destroyed by fire, and property to the amount of half a million dollars destroyed.

ANOTHER ROUFFEL CASE.—A curious trial, not unlike in some of its features to the Rouffel case, took place at Marlstone on Wednesday. It was an action, brought by a man named Richardson, to recover possession of four acres of land near Canterbury. The land had belonged to plaintiff's father, and had been left by him to his wife to be divided, on her death, between the plaintiff and a brother. Richardson sold his share in 1841 to a Mr. Cross, a solicitor, for £134. Now he came forward and swore that he had never sold it, and that the conveyance produced by Mr. Cross was a forgery. The jury found for the defendants, and the plaintiff was ordered into custody on a charge of perjury.

THE LATE ACCIDENT AT ASTON PARK.—The melancholy death of the "Female Blondin" at Aston Park, Birmingham, has raked a very general feeling against the revolting and demoralising spectacle of rope-walking. The Queen, whose womanly sympathies are ever alive to the welfare of her subjects, and especially with what concerns the honour of her sex, has written a letter to the Mayor of Birmingham, earnestly deprecating such exhibitions, especially in a place which she, along with her revered husband, opened a few years ago for the innocent recreation of the people of Birmingham. The Mayor replied that he individually deprecated the performance as much as any one, and recommended legislative interference. This dignified rebuke of the Sovereign will be more influential in the matter than a hundred Acts of Parliament.

MARRIAGES IN HIGH LIFE.—The marriage of Viscount Marham with Lady Constance Hastings took place at Castle Donington this week.—The marriage of Miss Pitt, niece of Lord Camberme, is to take place on the 6th inst.—Mr. Des Vaux and Lady Alice Egerton, youngest daughter of the Earl of Wilton, will be married about the middle of the present month.—A marriage is arranged to take place between Miss Des Vaux, daughter of Lady Cecilia and the late Sir Charles Des Vaux, and Mr. Rowley, son of Colonel Rowley.—Major Cornwallis, second son of Mr. Charles Wykeham Martin, of Leeds Castle, Kent, and grandson of the late Earl Cornwallis, is about to be united to Miss Harriett Mott, granddaughter of Lady Gertrude Staines Stanley.—The Hon. Colonel Anson, brother of Lord Lifford, is shortly to be married to Miss Cloughton, a niece of the Earl of Dalry.—A marriage will shortly take place between Lady Florence Paget and Mr. Chaplin, eldest son of Mr. Henry Chaplin, of Blackney Hall, Lincolnshire, one of the most wealthy squires in the county.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—A meeting of this institution was held on Thursday, at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. A reward was voted to the crew of a fishing-boat for putting off and rescuing, during a gale of wind and equally weather, the crew of five men from the brig Pelican, of Drogheda, which was in a disabled condition off the Isle of Lamlash, on the west coast of Scotland, on the 26th of June. A reward was also granted to two fishermen for putting off in a small boat and rescuing two out of four persons whose boat had been capsized during a sudden squall near Kenmare, in the county of Kerry, on the 10th of June. A man and woman had unfortunately perished on the occasion before assistance could possibly reach them. The Carmarthen Bay life-boat of the institution had put off with the view of rendering assistance to the French lugger Jean P. Baptist, which, during very foggy weather, had struck on a dangerous sandbank on the night of the 22nd ult. Fortunately, however, the vessel succeeded in getting off from her dangerous position and afterwards proceeded on her voyage. It was reported that the life-boats of the institution had during the seven months of the present year saved 123 shipwrecked persons, in addition to assisting several vessels into port. The crews of shore-boats to whom the institution voted pecuniary rewards had also saved 216 lives, making a total of 339 lives saved during the present year. For these joint services £648 18s. 2d. had been granted by the institution. It had also during the same period paid £7085 9s. 1d. on various life-boat establishments. The committee earnestly appealed to the public for continued support to enable them to maintain the large fleet of life-boats of the institution, now numbering 125, in a state of efficiency. It was reported that R. W. Holton, Esq., of Spilow Park, and Mrs. Holton had presented to the institution the cost of a new life-boat, to be stationed at Fily, on the Yorkshire coast. During the past month the institution had sent new life-boats to Tenby, on the Welsh coast, and to Lytham, on the Lancashire coast. The cost of these life-boats had been presented to the society by benevolent persons, and the several railway companies had given the boats a free conveyance over their lines to their respective destinations. Messrs. Forrest reported that the Government of Mecklenburg had ordered a life-boat on the plan of those of the institution to be supplied. The trustees of the late Mrs. Adams, widow of the late Mr. Adams, naval and military outfitter, Plymouth, had kindly remitted contributions amounting to £100 to the society. Payments, amounting to £1250, having been made on various life-boat establishments, the proceedings terminated.



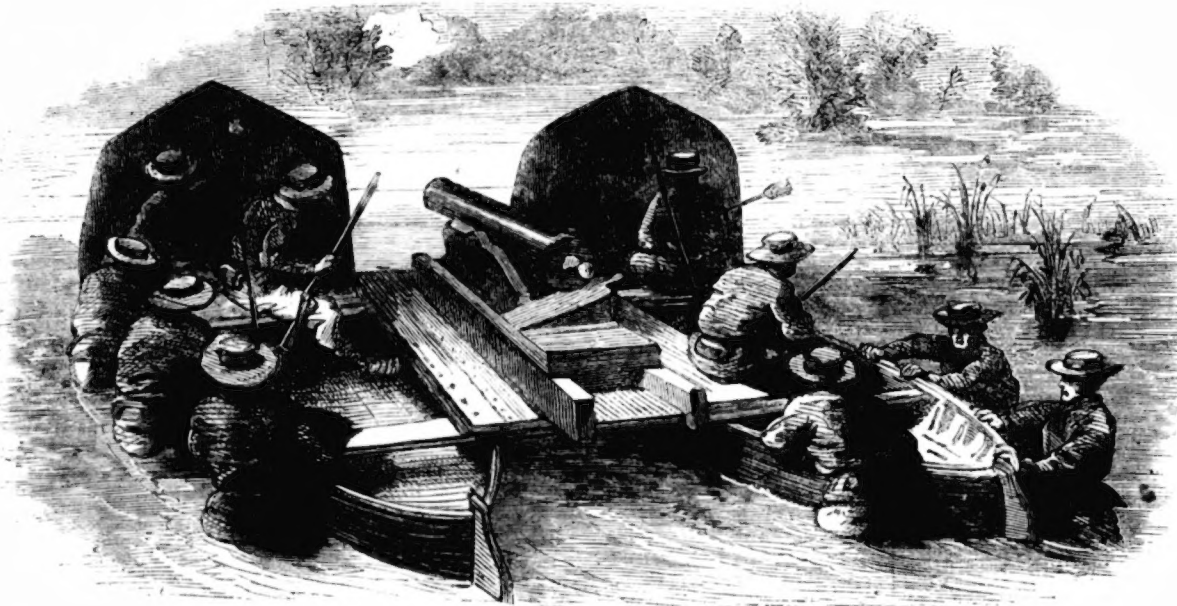
THE FRENCH IN COCHIN-CHINA.—INTERIOR OF THE FRENCH BATTERY AT GO-CONG.

THE FRENCH IN COCHIN-CHINA.

THE latest accounts of the progress of the French forces in Cochin-China afford additional proof that treaties and agreements, however solemnly they may appear to be ratified, are of little use without an exhibition of power to enforce them. In this respect there is little difference between Canton and Cochin, and, after the satisfactory termination to previous hostilities, the French troops have had much of their work to perform over again by the sudden appearance of an insurrection in Go-Cong.

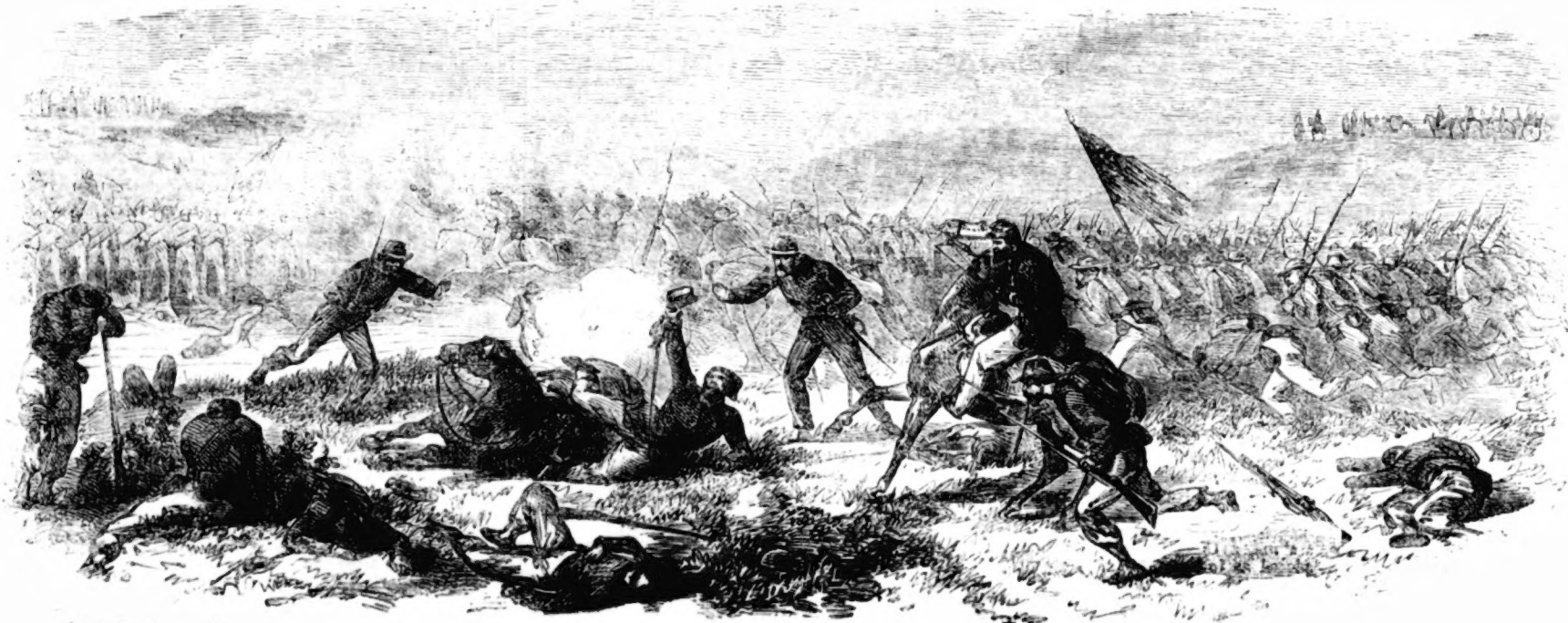
The first news of this outbreak was received in December last, and an expedition was rapidly organised by Vice-Admiral Bonard, a column composed of French and Spanish troops being placed under the orders of General Chaumont, Commandant Pietri, and the Spanish Colonel Palanca, who were to direct their force against the town of Go-Cong itself, the centre of the insurrection.

They pushed on with so

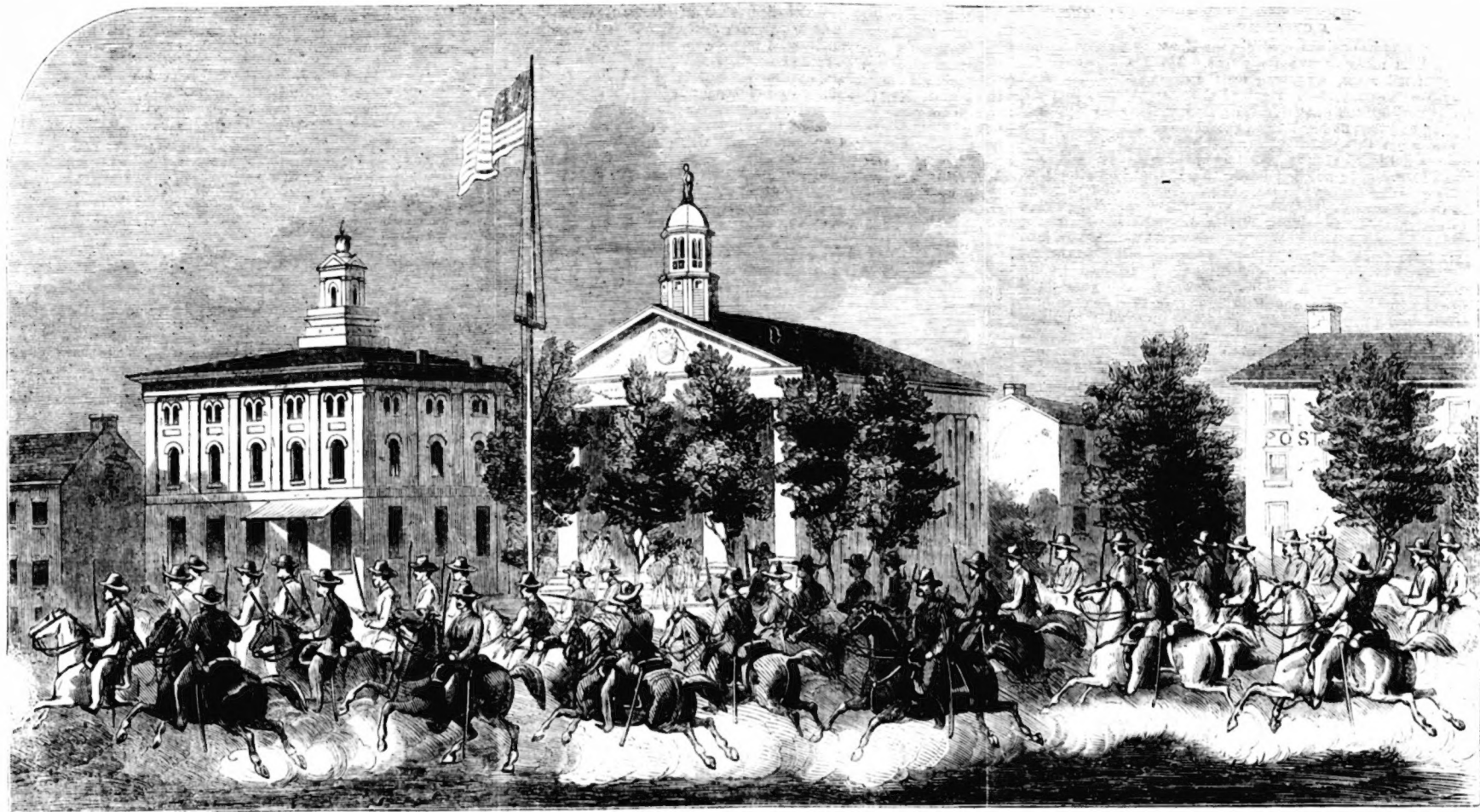


SAILORS CONVEYING A CANNON ACROSS THE MARSHES NEAR GO-CONG.

much vigour that, although the enemy had accumulated their defences and had armed their batteries with guns of large calibre, the expeditionary column took possession at once of the village of Dong-Sou, the fortifications at a place called Vinh-Loi, of the fortress of Go-Cong, and, finally, of Fort Trai-Ca, the last refuge of the rebels. This led to the submission of the province of Gia-Dinh, which succumbed to the European troops when it found that they occupied all the strong positions. The expedition was admirably equipped and organised, one of its principal features being a number of light boats constructed at Saigon. Each of these vessels could be carried by its crew, and somewhat resembled a sea-boat, being rather broad in the beam: while a spade-shaped shield was erected in its fore part, behind which two or three riflemen could be tolerably well protected. These boats were in fact large wherries with armour-plated shields,



THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.—SKIRMISH BETWEEN THE FEDERALS AND CONFEDERATES NEAR UPPERVILLE.



CONFEDERATE CAVALRY CHARGING THROUGH THE STREETS OF CHAMBERSBURG.—SEE PAGE 67.

and went by the name of "Merrimacs." They were intended for passing the marshes which extend for a considerable distance around Go-Cong, and formed admirable supports for the bridges over which the troops marched from shore to shore, each boat being kept in its place by piles, and the planking laid down from boat to boat. By a skilful adaptation of resources, two of these vessels were converted into a floating battery (represented in our Engraving), an arrangement which made them formidable as engines of war, where it would have been almost impossible to have used either land-batteries or gun-boats.

The insurrection once repressed, it became necessary for Admiral Bonard to repair at once to Hué, once more to ratify a treaty of peace with the King Tu Duc. Everything was prepared for the grand ceremony; the mandarins had taken care that lodgings, refreshments, and relays of bearers for the company should be provided on the route for the Admiral and his escort, which consisted of the French and Spanish representatives, and a hundred men chosen from the various corps. The principal officers of the mission and the military chiefs were carried by bearers, either in a sort of hammock, slung to bamboos and shaded with huge umbrellas, or in sedan chairs. The treaty itself was an object of extreme care, and was placed with great pomp under a scarlet awning, upon a sort of pagoda, in which the high representatives of France and Spain made the journey. On arriving at Hué the procession was received by the Annamite troops, headed by their officers and by the mandarins, who attended to conduct the embassy to the houses provided for their accommodation. After a stay of three days the terms of the treaty were agreed to and ratified by the King, with great pomp, in the

building where the Royal edicts are published, and a further delay of two days permitted Admiral Bonard and the French and Spanish representatives to take their leave of his Majesty. On this occasion the ceremony was one of true Oriental splendour, the Annamite Court having determined to exhibit themselves under their best conditions. All the avenues leading to the palace were filled with troops clad in gorgeous uniforms, while here and there, in the open spaces, the war elephants presented a barbarous but imposing appearance, being surmounted by towers, and looking like so many living triumphal arches. The King awaited his guests in a large open courthouse, richly decorated, and was surrounded by the princes of the various high dynasties seated before a table of solid gold.

After a speech from Admiral Bonard, which was afterwards repeated in Chinese, a member of the King's Privy Council replied to the Embassy, and the assembly broke up until some new disturbance may necessitate a fresh treaty or another solemn reception.

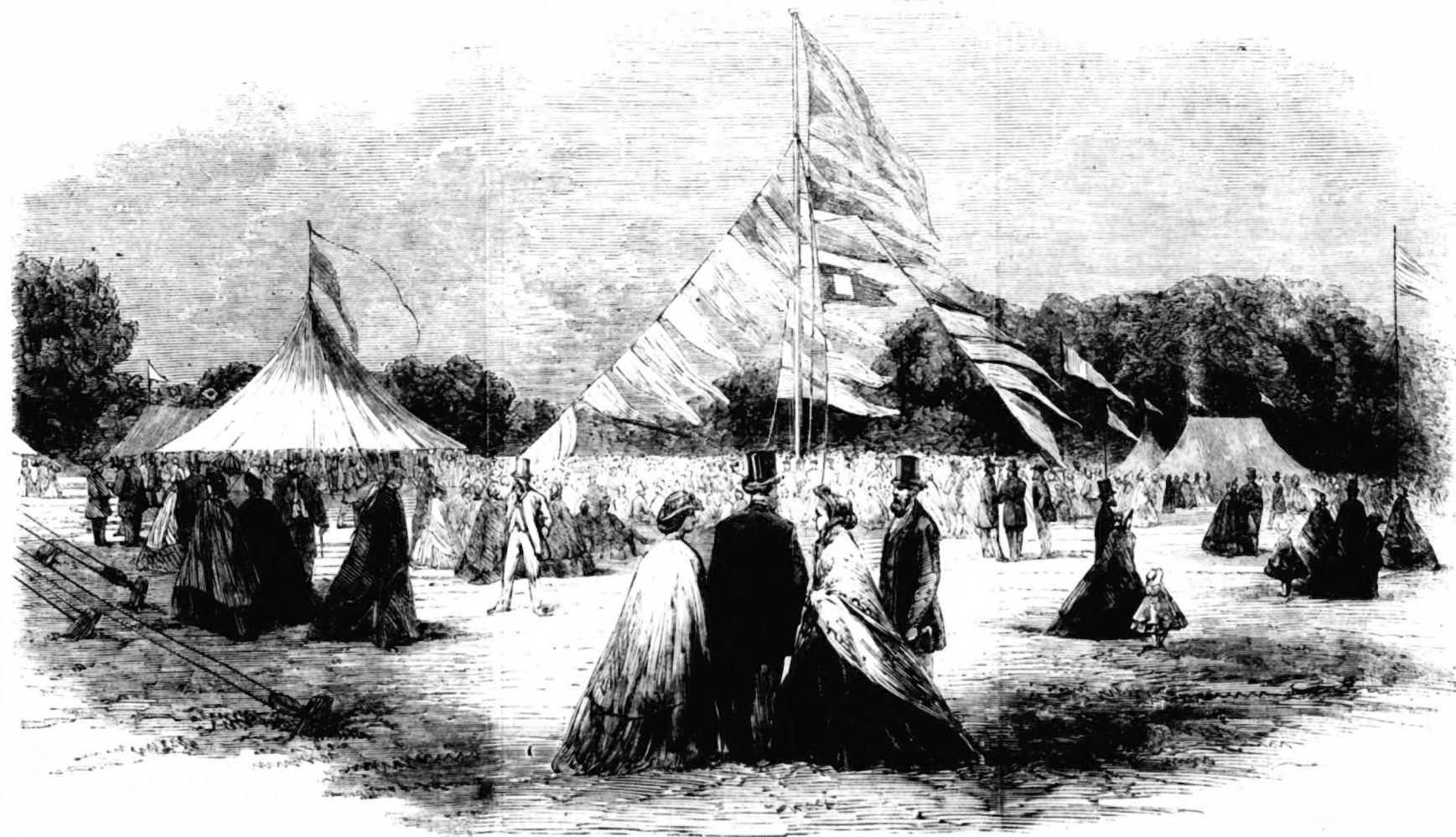
THE ALEXANDRA PARK, MUSWELL-HILL.

THE public opening of the beautiful estate at Muswell-hill, which is henceforward to be known under the above name, was celebrated on Thursday and Friday of last week with a horticultural show and an archery competition. On each day a large company was attracted to the scene. The estate, which has an extent of between 400 and 500 acres, offers, in hill, dale, and meadow, and splendid trees, every feature of a beautiful landscape, while it includes sites which command the most extensive views to be gained anywhere so near to

London. On Friday, when the charge for admission was only one shilling, the attendance was very large, amounting to some thousands. The horticultural tents were full for the greater part of the day, and the space between this show and the archery-ground was thronged with visitors, who walked up and down or seated themselves to enjoy the music performed by the bands of the Guards, or to watch the movements of the ladies and gentlemen engaged in the archery contest. The inclosed field—each end bounded by its row of targets, with the groups of ladies and gentlemen surrounding the butts as the archers delivered their shots from a line a little in advance—formed a picture worth remembering. The interest with which the flight of each arrow was watched, and the excitement felt as to the comparative excellence of a "gold," as the party crossed to the opposite butts to renew the contest, all tended to keep a long line of spectators at the edge of the field, many of whom remained at their posts for hours. At six o'clock the shooting was ended, and the prizes were shortly afterwards distributed to the winners.

In the afternoon the competitors dined together, Mr. M'Kenzie, the active superintendent, occupying the chair. At the conclusion of the repast, Mr. Keynes, of Keynes, in a short speech proposed success to the Alexandra Park Company. He said he had been to numbers of shows, but had never seen a display equal to that in the large tent; it was the grandest display of flowers he had ever seen put together. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm. Several other toasts were also given and duly responded to.

Besides those who attended the fête in the inclosed ground, many thousand people availed themselves of the permission to visit the park free of charge.



HORTICULTURAL FETE HELD IN THE NEW ALEXANDRA PARK AT MUSWELL HILL.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 222.

A GREAT BATTLE.

MR. HENNESSY has gained credit in the House as a shrewd critic of sundry bills more or less important. He has also achieved notoriety, if not fame, by taking up the cause of Poland. And generally, we may say, he has gained the character of an acute, clever, and pertinacious debater. Now, considering that he is still very young, and that he has been in the house only four years, this is really a great thing to have done. But Mr. Hennessy is impetuously ambitious, and inordinately self-conceited; and not only longs for a higher position but has a profound conviction that he is fully qualified for the highest. Our opinion is that he already sees the Great Seal dangling before his eyes, and has made up his mind to clutch them at no very distant day; and if any of our readers doubt this, let them ponder the tale which we have now to tell. We have said that Mr. Hennessy has proved himself a shrewd critic of small bills. Lately Mr. Hennessy determined to fly at much higher game. A bill came down from the Lords a few weeks ago, intitled the "Statute Law Revision Bill." It is a bill for rooting out of the statute-book a vast quantity of old dead law which is perfectly useless, and only cumbered the ground and bothered the lawyers. This measure has been on the anvil for several years, and has received the sanction and imprimatur of all our great luminaries of the law. Well, when Mr. Hennessy heard of this bill he straightway got a copy of it, began to examine its contents, and soon saw, or thought he saw, discrepancies, blunders, and shortcomings in the measure; and incontinently a brilliant idea came into his head, and a glorious vista opened before him which seemed to reach up to the very temple of Fame. "Ah, ah!" said he to himself, "here is a chance. I will attack this bill; I will expose these discrepancies; I will cut up these blunders; and out of this pretentious bill I will pluck immortal laurels." And no doubt, if Mr. Hennessy could have succeeded, he would have achieved a triumph indeed; for, consider who were really his opponents. First, there were the Lord High Chancellor of England, Lord Westbury, late Sir Richard Bethell, whom we know; secondly, there was the mighty phalanx of law lords who have been Lord Chancellors; and, thirdly, there were the Attorney-General and Solicitor-General of the present Government, and the Attorney-General and Solicitor-General of the late Government, not to mention the careful compilers of the bill, who, though unknown to fame, are much greater lawyers than Mr. Hennessy is, or perhaps can hope to be. Why, if Hennessy had come off victorious in such a fight as this, he would have been a hero. The victory of David over Goliath would have paled before such a triumph as this. But Mr. Hennessy did not succeed, as we shall now proceed to show.

MR. HENNESSY'S FIRST ATTACK A DEFEAT.

Mr. Hennessy, if we remember right, first sounded his trumpet of defiance when the bill was read a second time; but then the fight was postponed—put off until the bill should stand for Committee, and on Wednesday in last week the day arrived, that great important day big with fate for Mr. Hennessy and his future fame; and it was easy to see, as Mr. Hennessy sat in his place before the measure was called, that he was not only eager for the fray, but confident of success; and when he rose this was still more manifest, he looked so "cocky" and so evidently anticipated victory. Indeed, it is our opinion that he confidently believed that his conquest would be a very easy one, and that, like the Roman General, he would merely have to write to his friends, *Veni, vidi, vici*. But, alas! he soon found out his mistake; and, sanguine and self-confident and conceited as he is, those visions of glory which played before his rapt senses as he prepared for the fight must very soon have begun to fade away; for at the first step forward he was met and overthrown, and in every succeeding attack gained no better success. The Solicitor-General came down upon his front like a cohort of heavy horse; Sir Fitzroy Kelly and Sir Hugh Cairns attacked him on the flank; and though Aytoun came somewhat perfunctorily to his aid, and old Henley made a slight move in his favour, and though he managed to keep up a running fight for three hours and more, he was utterly routed at last. Poor man! he looked cowed and mortified when the fight was over, we thought.

HIS SECOND DISCOMFITURE.

But though thus discomfited Mr. Hennessy soon rallied, and when the bill came on to be read a third time and passed, he was again in position for another desperate struggle to retrieve his former defeat. This time, however, he was alone. Old Henley did not show, and Mr. Aytoun, if present, took no part in the fight. But then, on the other hand, he had but one antagonist this time—to wit, Sir Roundell Palmer. Sir Fitzroy Kelly and Sir Hugh Cairns were both away, thinking, no doubt, that the redoubtable Solicitor-General would prove more than a match for such a foe. It was at a morning sitting that this second fight came off, and there were not more than forty members present. Mr. Hennessy was down before the House was made, and at about half-past twelve he marched in heavily armed with a load of books, and quietly intrenched himself in his usual place. He did not look quite so elated as he did on the former occasion, but still it was clear to all that he was not depressed and that still he expected a triumph. His guns had been all dismounted in the former battle, and he had to retire from the field entirely overthrown and disgraced. He had, however, by diligent search in the library, which is our arsenal here for political combatants, found other weapons, and once more he threw down the gauntlet to his former foes. And really, as we listened to him, as he produced case after case in that confident tone and manner of his, it seemed for a time as if on this occasion he would certainly maintain his ground, if he did not gain a triumph. The Solicitor-General, too, appeared agitated, we thought. He hurriedly consulted his books; he nervously, as we imagined, jotted down his notes; more than once rushed off to the drawer of the bill, who sat under the gallery; and, in short, appeared to be taken somewhat aback. At last, however, Hennessy sat down, and the great law officer rose, and in a few minutes all doubt was dispelled; for Sir Roundell Palmer in his opening sentences poured down upon poor Mr. Hennessy such a volley of eloquent sarcasm that we saw at once that the gallant knight had the victory in his hands. "We have been about the House of Commons many years; we have seen there a hundred fierce and uncompromising fights; we have heard Disraeli in his most terrible moods; we have listened to Gladstone when he poured his hot eloquence, like fiery lava, upon Sir George Bowyer; we have been present when Mr. Bright hurled red-hot shot upon Palmerston, and the gallant Premier returned him 'as good as he gave'; but, in all our experience, we never heard so complete, so nothing, so damaging a reply as that which Sir Roundell Palmer delivered to Mr. Hennessy on that day. It was completely triumphant, and poured out with such eloquence, energy, and sarcastic contempt, that poor Mr. Hennessy could hardly keep his seat. All Mr. Hennessy's facts were confuted, torn to shreds; all his reasoning was turned inside out. He was taunted with his 'little knowledge.' In short, he was completely utterly routed, and, without arms or armour, was obliged to leave the field in the most pitiful condition. And so the matter ended. Mr. Hennessy is clever, no doubt, but not wise. It is said, upon high authority, that 'he that maketh haste to be rich falleth into a snare,' and the same may be said of him who maketh haste to be famous. That a student of a couple of years should imagine that he could succeed in an encounter with a phalanx composed of all the great lawyers of the age, would seem to show that he has not yet learned one primary truth—to wit, that the first knowledge which an aspirant to greatness has to attain is the knowledge of how little he knows. Ah! Mr. Hennessy, you have talents, no doubt, and industry, and pertinacity, and courage—a pertinacity which verges at times upon factiousness—a courage amounting to audacity; but if you wish to be really famous you must be patient and modest.

THE REPORTERS AT FAULT.

On Thursday, last week, the reporters in the gallery—all except those upon the staff of the *Morning Star*, who probably had notice of what might be expected—were taken aback. There was

no business upon the paper of any importance; they saw nothing but the third reading of the Consolidated Fund Bill and some other routine matters; and the said reporters failed to muster in strength. All that would be required would be a summary of the debate, and that one writer might do easily enough. But they reckoned wrongly; for upon motion made that the Consolidated Fund Bill be read a third time, Mr. Cobden, who had been waiting his opportunity, rose to deliver one of his great speeches. The subject was, "fitting out of Confederate war-ships in our ports," and he spoke for an hour, and inaugurated an important debate, which lasted three hours. There was excitement in the gallery. What was to be done? It was impossible for one man to report the debate. To bring up more strength in time was equally impossible; and the consequence was that, except in the *Morning Star*, only a summary could be given, and the summary was that Cobden was in full feather that morning, and delivered a speech which for clear arrangement and close reasoning was more like a "judgment" of one of our great Judges than a speech in Parliament. In short, it was in Cobden's best style; a speech which only he could deliver; and which brought up Mr. John Laird, of Birkenhead, and Lord Palmerston, and led to an important debate, when nothing had been expected.

A DULL SPEAKER ON A DULL SUBJECT.

In the evening of the same day we had the strange sight of a Cabinet Minister speaking for two hours to a House averaging only somewhere about fifty members. But then the subject was Indian Finance, and the speaker Sir Charles Wood—a dry subject and a dryer speaker. It is right, however, to say that the Indian Secretary of State was a trifle more lively than usual on this occasion, and not quite so circumlocutionary and involved. He had a brilliant financial statement to make. Instead of a deficit he had a large surplus to announce; and instead of angry, discontented critics he had smiling approvers to meet. Still, he was dull and wearisome, as he must ever be; for it is not in his nature to be otherwise. We never knew him otherwise but once, and that was several years ago, when King Hudson, in all the glory of evening dress and capacious white waistcoat, having dined and wine, invoked the "British Lion," chanted a paraphrase of "Rule, Britannia!" and flourished "the flag that has braved," &c., before his astonished audience. Sir Charles had also that night dined, &c., and was also in costume, and he, too, rose, and, to our wondering ears and eyes, echoed the sentiments and imitated the impassioned action of the "Iron King." But this was most exceptional—an inspired moment. Never before or since has Sir Charles lifted himself above the dead level of his native dullness.

A NEW SPEAKER.

Two new speakers have made their appearance in the House this Session, and both give promise of usefulness, if not of celebrity—Mr. Goschen and Mr. Aytoun. Of Mr. Goschen we have already spoken; of Mr. Aytoun it remains for us now shortly to speak. This gentleman is a Scotch landed proprietor; he is a relation of Professor Aytoun, was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and represents Kirkcaldy, having succeeded Colonel Ferguson in 1862. Mr. Aytoun did not speak last Session, and he is a man of such quiet habits that we had come to think that he was a mere silent member. Suddenly, however, he rose in his place to speak. "Who is it?" inquired the members at the Bar. "Who is it?" was whispered all over the House; for probably there were not then a dozen members who knew Mr. Aytoun. Meanwhile Mr. Aytoun went on, and soon arrested the attention of the House. Not that the hon. gentleman is what you would call an eloquent or impressive speaker. But it was clear that he was well acquainted with his subject, had thought earnestly about it, and could clearly and effectively utter his thoughts. And one night last week he spoke again, and again we were struck with his intelligence, and the clearness and appositeness of his language. Mr. Aytoun's specialty seems to be a knowledge of colonial matters; and Mr. Chichester Fortescue, the colonial organ of the Government, must mind what he is about, for here is evidently a critic who knows quite as much about the colonies as Mr. Fortescue does, and will watch him narrowly.

FAREWELL.

It is all over. Parliament is dispersed to the winds. On Tuesday, at three o'clock, the Attorney-General for Ireland was speaking. Mr. Newdegate had a speech, hot from the furnace, upon the subject of poor Turnbull, and Monsell and Bowyer sat evidently on the slip to reply, when suddenly the doorkeeper shouted at the bar, "Black Rod." Sir Augustus Clifford in all his glory—blue ribbon, stars, and medals, blue and gold uniform, with his rod in his hand, marched up the House, and straightway Mr. O'Hagan had to sink into his seat, and Mr. Newdegate, Mr. Monsell, and Sir George Bowyer had to bottle up their wrath until next Session, for the hour had come when all debating must close by her Majesty's command. Mr. Speaker went to the Lords to hear the Royal Speech, accompanied by his Serjeant-at-Arms and the mace. In half an hour he returned, but without the mace, the symbol of his authority and sign that the House is in Session. All that he had to do after this was to read the Royal Speech in a friendly way to the members as they clustered round the table, and then bid them good-by and vanish through the back door. And now we will follow his example, and bid our readers farewell, and vanish.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 24.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN IN FACTORIES.

Lord SHAFTESBURY called attention to the employment of children in factories and potteries, and expressed a hope that some measures would be taken to remedy evils which he pointed out.

POLAND.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE commenced a debate on Poland by asking for papers relating to recent atrocities committed by the Russians. Earl RUSSELL declined to give the papers, and took the opportunity of making an explanation. He denied that he had ever said that, however much the safety of Europe and the independence and honour of England were concerned, we should never draw the sword for Poland. What he did say was, that where the honour and independence of England were concerned there could be no calculations of the consequences; but when the question was one of general humanity and the bearing of certain treaties it became the Government to consider carefully what course they should pursue. He had further expressed an opinion in favour of the independence of Poland, but had said that that independence, to be lasting, must be achieved by the Poles themselves. He praised the manner in which Austria had replied to the Russian note.

Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE also praised Austria. Lord ELLENBOROUGH contended that the Government ought to enforce its demands upon Russia.

The Earl of MALMESBURY hoped their Lordships would be guided by their judgment rather than by their feelings in this matter. After a few words from Earl GRANVILLE the subject dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

UNIVERSITY TESTS.

Mr. DODSON called attention to a petition from members of the University of Oxford praying the abolition of the requirement of subscription to formularies of faith as a qualification for academic degrees. This petition, the hon. member observed, was signed by all the most eminent and enlightened men in the University; and its object was very different to the bill of Mr. Bouvier to alter the Act of Uniformity. All it asked was that Oxford should be placed upon the same footing as Cambridge, which had long ago of its own accord abolished this qualification.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER contended that it was a just and fair demand on the part of the Church that the governing body of the University should consist of her members. The parents of England would never be satisfied to send their children for academic training to a university that was not administered in conformity with some definite religious system. Any improvement should originate with the university itself rather than by evoking the interference of the State. The fair principle was that the University should reserve to itself, as to the Church in the University of the Institution, including, above all, its religious purposes, and not let some third party make every practical concession to them. Was were without.

MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS.

The state of the law relating to the rating of compound householders, the inoculation of sheep as a remedy for smallpox, thecession of the Ionian Islands, the erection of monuments in Westminster Abbey, Poland, and other subjects were likewise discussed.

SATURDAY, JULY 25.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Commons' amendments to a number of bills were agreed to. The Indemnity, the Land-tax Commissioners' Names, the Promissory Notes and Bills of Exchange, the Removal of Prisoners (Scotland), the Charitable Uses, and the Companies Clauses Bills were read a third time and passed. The Poisoned Grain, &c., Prohibition Bill was also read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The consideration of the Lords' amendment to the Fisheries (Ireland) Bill occupied some time, but eventually all were agreed to, as were the Lords' amendments to a number of other bills.

MONDAY, JULY 27.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE called attention to the proposed guaranty of the Ionian Islands when transferred to Greece. He expressed very strong doubts of the wisdom and expediency of the transfer.

Earl RUSSELL defended the proposed cession, and spoke very hopefully of the future of Greece.

The Earl of DERBY expressed his disapproval of the proposed cession. After a few words in reply from Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE, the matter dropped.

METROPOLITAN RAILWAYS.

Lord STRATHEDEN moved for a Commission to inquire into the principles which ought to guide further legislation on the subject of metropolitan railways.

Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY opposed the motion as being "unnecessary"; and, after some discussion, it was withdrawn.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ROMAN CATHOLIC BURIAL-GROUND AT SYDENHAM.—THE LATE MR. TURNBULL.

Mr. NEWDEGATE asked a question about a Roman Catholic burial-ground at Sydenham, and in doing so wished to quote documents in which attacks were made on some Roman Catholic authorities.

Mr. MONSELL rose to order, and the Speaker decided that the documents could not be read on putting the question.

Mr. NEWDEGATE then moved the adjournment of the House, and that was enabled to read the documents.

Mr. BRUCE having answered the question asked by the hon. gentleman, Mr. MONSELL rose and charged Mr. Newdegate with having humiliated the late Mr. Turnbull to death.

Sir G. BOWYER indorsed this statement, and for the time Mr. Newdegate was fain to put up with it. Subsequently, however, he gave notice that he would move for documents in the case of "Turnbull v. Bird."

On the motion for the third reading of the Exhibition Medals Bill, Mr. Aytoun opposed it. A debate of some length followed, ending in the bill being read a third time by 62 votes to 15.

TUESDAY, JULY 28.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

The Commissioners appointed by her Majesty to prorogue Parliament to their seats shortly after three o'clock, vested in the robes usually worn on such occasions.

The Commons having been summoned, the Speaker, with a few members, appeared at the bar, and the Royal Assent having been given to some public and private bills, the Lord Chancellor read her Majesty's Message as follows:

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

We are commanded by her Majesty to release you from further attendance in Parliament, and, at the same time, to convey to you her Majesty's acknowledgments for the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the performance of your duties during the Session now brought to a close.

Her Majesty has seen with deep regret the present condition of Poland. Her Majesty has been engaged, in concert with the Emperor of the French and the Emperor of Austria, in negotiations, the object of which has been to obtain the fulfilment of the stipulations of the Treaty of Vienna of 1815, by behalf of the Poles. Her Majesty trusts that those stipulations will be carried into execution, and that thus a conflict distressing to humanity and dangerous to the tranquillity of Europe may be brought to a close.

The civil war between the Northern and Southern States of the North American Union still unfortunately continues, and is necessarily attended with much evil, not only to the contending parties, but also to nations which have taken no part in the contest. Her Majesty, however, has seen no reason to depart from that strict neutrality which her Majesty has observed from the beginning of the contest.

The Greek nation having chosen Prince William of Denmark for their King, her Majesty is taking steps with a view to the union of the Ionian Islands to the kingdom of Greece. For this purpose her Majesty is in communication with the Powers who were parties to the Treaty of 1815, by which those islands were placed under the protection of the British Crown; and the wishes of the Ionians on the subject of such union will be duly ascertained.

Several barbarous outrages committed in Japan upon British subjects have rendered it necessary for her Majesty to demand reparation; and her Majesty hopes that her demands will be conceded by the Japanese Government without its being necessary to resort to coercive measures to enforce them.

The Emperor of Brazil has thought fit to break off his diplomatic relations with her Majesty in consequence of her Majesty not having complied with demands which she did not deem it possible to accede to. Her Majesty has no wish that this estrangement should continue, and would be glad to see her relations with Brazil re-established.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Her Majesty commands you to convey to you her warm acknowledgments for the liberal supplies which you have granted for the service of the present year, and towards the permanent defence of her Majesty's dockyards and arsenals; and her Majesty commands you to thank you for the provision you have made for the establishment of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

The distress which the civil war in North America has inflicted upon a portion of her Majesty's subjects in the manufacturing districts, and towards the relief of which such generous and munificent contributions have been made, has in some degree diminished, and her Majesty has given her cordial assent to measures calculated to have a beneficial influence upon that unfortunate state of things.

Symptoms of a renewal of disturbance have manifested themselves in her Majesty's colony of New Zealand, but her Majesty trusts that by wise and conciliatory measures, supported by adequate means of repression, order and tranquillity will be maintained in that valuable and improving colony.

Her Majesty has given her assent to a measure for augmenting the income of a considerable number of small benefices, and she trusts that this measure will be conducive to the interests of the Established Church.

Her Majesty has given her assent to an Act for the revision of a large portion of the Statute Book, by the removal of many Acts which, although they had become obsolete or unnecessary, obstructed the condensation of the Statute Law.

Her Majesty has felt much pleasure in giving her assent to an Act for placing upon a well-defined footing that volunteer force which has added a most important element to the defensive means of the country.

Her Majesty has gladly given her assent to an Act for carrying into effect the additional treaty concluded by her Majesty with the President of the United States for the more effectual suppression of the slave trade; and her Majesty trusts that the honourable co-operation of the Government of the United States will materially assist her Majesty in the endeavours which Great Britain has long been engaged in making to put an end to the perpetration of that most disgraceful crime. Her Majesty has accepted, with satisfaction, to many other measures of public usefulness, the result of your labours during the present Session.

It has been gratifying to her Majesty to observe that, notwithstanding many adverse circumstances, the general prosperity of her empire continues

unimpaired. Though great local distress has been suffered in Great Britain from the effects of the civil war in America, and in Ireland from the results of three unfavourable seasons, the financial resources of the United Kingdom have been fully maintained, and its general commerce with the world at large has not been materially impaired.

It has been a source of great satisfaction to her Majesty to find that her East Indian possessions, rapidly recovering from the disasters which lately overtook them, are entering upon a course of improvement, social, financial, and commercial, which holds out good promise for the growing prosperity of those extensive regions.

On returning to your several counties you will still have important duties to perform; and her Majesty fervently prays that the blessing of Almighty God may attend your efforts to promote the welfare and happiness of her subjects, the object of her constant and earnest solicitude.

Parliament was then declared to stand prorogued till the 14th of October.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

A new writ was ordered to issue for the election of a member for Pontefract, in the room of Mr. Monckton Milnes, resigned.

Lord Palmerston, in answer to Mr. D. Griffith, said that the territorial limitation of Greece had been fixed by treaty, and the terms of that treaty would extend to the Ionian Islands, and they could not be alienated except with the consent of the Powers parties to the treaty.

At three o'clock the sitting was interrupted by the summons to the House of Peers to hear the Queen's Speech.

On the return of the Speaker the Session was concluded in the usual simple manner.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1863.

COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS.

Of all the revolutions of modern English social life, there is, perhaps, not one so remarkable as that which owes its existence to the adoption of the system of competitive examinations. It is scarcely too much to say that there is hardly a family which has not been in some way interested in the educational tests as now applied. The millennium of pedagogues has arrived, or is rapidly arriving. We question whether old Xenophon ever commanded in his own day such a number of readers for his "Anabasis" as he finds at this present time. That harmless class of pedants, ordinarily known as "coaches" and "crammers," are reaping a rich harvest. The magical letters B.A. and M.A. represent now something more than mere honorary distinction. Properly utilised, they lead to snug, lavishly remunerated private tutorships in wealthy or aristocratic families, upon the easy terms of imparting that kind of so-called education, of which, as to my far the greater part, the sole use appears to be to enable the possessor to pass it on.

Generally, the conditions upon which advancement is thus made to depend are accepted without comment or murmur. Occasionally, it is true, some one in "the House" takes a board of examiners to task and elicits bursts of laughter by dragging before the public a few of the questions which these gentlemen think fit to propound as tests of the capacity and intelligence of students and candidates for appointments. Of course, with certain allowances, these questions are answered, the examinations are passed, and the students are rewarded with honorary approval or with the opening of an honourable career. Nor is the acquisition of such a reward looked upon as involving unnecessary hardship. A few months of hard, grinding study, under the direction of a "coach," are regarded as a condition which must be simply accepted as inevitable. We are willing to acknowledge that this is the view taken even by the students themselves. But there are at least two questions in connection therewith which might be advantageously considered by the public. Of these one is, whether the time thus devoted by the student might not be expended with greater probable advantage to the public from the result of his studies; and, secondly, whether the system be not actually detrimental to such student in his future career.

We are willing to admit that, even supposing a portion of the prescribed study to be as useless *in futuro* as, say, Greek to a civil engineer or fluxions to a doctor of medicine, there is an excuse for developing the faculty of learning, however great may be the difference in direction between the immediate and the ultimate object. But it should never be forgotten that the greatest hindrance and obstacle to a certain kind of study in the case of a youth whose career is marked out as that of activity in any but the scholastic profession, is the knowledge that he is acquiring what will be useless to him in any other. He may learn living tongues with avidity; Latin is a necessity to him if he wish to speak, comprehend, and even spell his own language as a scholar should; but the knowledge that a course of Greek, acquired at no one knows what expense of dreary brain-labour, will be utterly useless to him from the moment he has ceased to require it for examination purposes, unnerves his intellect and deadens his capacity.

There is also another ground of complaint, at which we have already glanced, as to these examinations, and which naturally excites the laughter of Parliament. It is the introduction of "farcy questions" by examiners desirous, possibly, rather of exhibiting their own pedantry than fairly testing the acquirements of candidates. We have seen in an examination-paper inquiries as to the meaning and propriety of such words as "amiable," "frush," and "frampold." The two latter are long obsolete. The former, like "reindeer," embodies a catch not unknown to sporting sharpers. But the knowledge that strictly there is no such word as "amiable" or "amiability" (see "amable" and "amability" in the dictionaries) is not calculated to do a man much good. Indeed, as in the famous "reindeer" headline case, a little learning of

this kind may do more towards a man's social disgrace than his advancement. Every honest man—nay, every scholar—is open to "catches" of this class. You may find even Dr. Johnson tripping if you turn to "topsy-turvy" in his Dictionary. He has not perceived that it is a vulgar colloquialism for "top side the other way;" and, while deprecatingly quoting a false derivation, admits that no better has occurred to him.

But there remains a much deeper and graver objection than any which captious criticism can discover. The psychological aspect of this matter is one which appears hitherto to have escaped comment. Youth of sixteen or eighteen are set to hard, incessant study from morn to night for the purposes of these examinations. They pass, or they do not. We heard, a few days since, a "coaching tutor" rejoicing that he had passed his "pup" (educational slang for pupil) through an examination, the "pup" being an utter fool; while a sharp, shrewd, intelligent rival had failed for lack of successful grinding. The test is futile; but it is also worse—it is mischievous. Who can tell what damage is done to the delicate organism of the brain, strained, overworked, and tortured before it has yet had time to mature its powers? We have heard an eminent scientific man, now alive, candidly declare that his capacity for study and usefulness during his riper years had been irretrievably injured by the strain upon his mental and physical powers necessary to enable him to pass the severe examination required to obtain for him his diploma.

These are points on which it would be well to think seriously. Illustrations of the working of the system are already unfortunately only too readily met with in society. We find "coaches," ready to talk by the hour about the Peloponnesians, so socially and politically ignorant that the current cartoon in *Punch* is a mystery to them. No man of the world would select one of these pedants for an hour's chat, or quit him afterwards without a sensation of refreshing relief. But these men are at once the exemplifications and the triumphs of the present educational system. We only pretend to judge of it by its fruits.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY, it has been definitely announced at Coburg, is to reach that city on the 14th inst.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES intend to leave London for Halifax on Monday. Their Royal Highnesses are expected to reach Edinburgh on the 6th, on their way to Balmoral.

LORD CLYDE continues to improve, and there is now every reason to expect that the distinguished veteran will soon be restored to his ordinary state of health.

MR. MONCKTON MILNES, M.P. for Pontefract, has been raised to the peerage by the title of Baron Houghton, of Houghton.

THE CAPTAIN-GENERALSHIP of the Honourable Artillery Company, vacant by the death of the Prince Consort, has been accepted by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

THE PYTHONESSE, which was more than a nine days' wonder last year, is dead.

THERE IS AN ON DIT in the military world that another court-martial will take place in the 4th Dragoon Guards. It is expected that some curious disclosures will be made.

COLONEL WHITE, of Woodlands, will, it is said, shortly be raised to the peerage.

BRITISH SUBJECTS will not in future be allowed to land at Odessa without passports.

THE STEAMER PARIS, belonging to the Newhaven and Jersey Line, struck on the Grandt, off Jersey, on Wednesday morning, and immediately sank. The crew and passengers were saved.

MISSE EMMA LIVRY, who was burnt so terribly on the stage several months ago, died on Sunday night at Neuilly.

ALEXANDRE DUMAS, sen., is engaged on a French translation of Walter Scott.

THE METROPOLIS OF THE LAKE DISTRICT is filled with visitors, many of them belonging to the aristocratic circles.

THE WIFE OF A LABOURER at Mülheim, on the Ruhr, Germany, gave birth to four infants—two boys and two girls—on the 23rd ult. Mother and children are reported to be "doing well."

AN ENGLISHMAN recently fell overboard from a steamer between Leghorn and Genoa, and was picked up after swimming ten hours and a half. So, at least, says a Turin paper.

MR. GIDEON WELLES, Secretary to the Federal Navy, denies that the Federal Government, or any of its agents, ever made an application to the Messrs. Laird, of Birkenhead, for the construction of vessels. Mr. Laird has since published documents which he thinks prove the truth of his statement that such an application was made.

THE GRAPE BLIGHT has made its appearance again in the neighbourhood of Bayonne, and in several parts of Upper Italy. The heat of the summer seems to favour its development.

GENERAL BUTLER, of New Orleans notoriety, recently committed an unjustifiable assault upon a respectable man who was employed in laying a drain on the General's estate. The man retaliated by knocking the General down.

MR. REEVES, of Burrane, in the county of Clare, a Conservative, has come forward under the auspices of the Carlton Club to oppose Sir Colman O'Loghlin, in that county. The nomination is fixed for Monday next.

AT THE YORK ASSIZES a Miss Harrison, of Wharfedale, obtained £600 from Mr. John Duncan, of the firm of Alkroyd and Co., Osley, for breach of promise of marriage.

THE PARIS *Sibylle* has received a warning for suggesting that a plebiscite of the whole people should be taken to vote for or against a war for Poland.

EARL RUSSELL has declined to receive a deputation from the recent Polish demonstration in St. James's Hall. His Lordship assigns no reason for his refusal.

IN WALLACHIA the heat has been excessive during the last month. At Bucharest the thermometer has been as high as 46 deg. centigrade (114° Fahr.) The corn crops have suffered from the extreme dryness of the weather.

THE REPORT that the Nova Scotia goldfields have disappointed the expectations of the miners is contradicted by several persons professing to be well acquainted with the facts of the case. The mines are represented as in full operation and yielding very satisfactory returns.

SIR EDMUND HEAD, BART., late Governor of Canada, and Mr. P. A. Pickering, the Recorder of the borough, are spoken of by the Liberal party as candidates for the representation of Pontefract. Mr. Samuel Waterhouse, of Halifax, who previously contested the representation, has addressed the electors in the Conservative interest.

BETWEEN 1843 and 1861 17,433 IMMIGRANTS have been introduced into Jamaica, 88,195 into British Guiana, 2,843 into St. Lucia, 2,119 into St. Vincent, 3,823 into Grenada, 2,292 into Antigua, 1,364 into St. Kitts, 4,17 into Nevis, 517 into Tobago, 389 into Bahamas, and 1,999,709 into Mauritius.

THE LIBRARY of the late Mr. H. F. Bache, author of the "History of Civilisation," has just been sold by auction by Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson. The total amount realised was £1585 18s. Many of the books were enriched with his MS. notes.

TWO HUNDRED AND NINETY-SEVEN JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES, with limited liability, have been registered in England in the first half of the year 1863. Thirty-three of them are banking companies. The nominal capital proposed for these banking companies was more than £18,000,000.

BY AN ACT OF PARLIAMENT just passed, provision is to be forthwith made for the widows of seamen and marines slain, killed, or drowned in the sea service of the Crown after the passing of the Act. A sum of £5000, out of the revenue of Greenwich Hospital, is to be annually appropriated; and, if not expended for the purposes mentioned, to form a widows' fund for the parties entitled to the same under the new law.

AS GENERAL HOOB's division of Texan Confederates was passing in front of a house at Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, a young lady showed herself ostentatiously in front with a small Union flag pinned on her bosom. One of the Texans, with an air of great respect, remarked to her, "You had better lower that flag, Madam; our legs are tired at breastworks, especially when they mount the Yankee colours."

INTELLIGENCE has been received at Vienna from Constantinople denying the statement that Dost Mahomed was dead, and asserting that he had captured Herat, and was residing in that city.

ESTHER SPENCER, a servant girl in Southampton, was burned to death on Wednesday, from her dress, kindled by crinoline, coming in contact with the kitchen fire. She was literally burned to a cinder.

A FLY DAYS BACK, on the coast of Brittany, a boat rowed by two men, and containing twenty-one harvestmen, was proceeding from Locmariaquer (Morbihan) to Arzon, when it was upset, and the whole twenty-three persons perished.

M. DE KERCARADEC, a gentleman well-known in the sporting world of the chivrons of Dinan and Rennes, recently betted that he would drive his mare Tolla, in a ribway, 100 leagues in 100 consecutive hours. The trial came off last week, the mare completing the distance in ninety-three hours.

THE COMMITTEE appointed to manage the memorial to the late Lord Hatherton have decided on erecting a statue in the square at Stafford, opposite the Shire Hall. They also propose to found an exhibition at Oxford or Cambridge for boys educated in Staffordshire.

MISS PYNE and MR. HARRISON, says rumour, will open their season with an opera on an Indian subject, the words by Mr. Harris, the music by Mr. Wallace. It is said that Mr. Balfe will set as an opera "The Duke's Motto" for the same theatre.

A VESSEL that has arrived at Falmouth reports the capture and destruction of two fine North American vessels by Captain Semmes, of the Confederate cruiser, Florida. One of the vessels is said to have had her silver on board to the value of £20,000. The crews of the two vessels were put on board the ship that brought the news to Falmouth.

MOUNT ETNA presents every appearance of an eruption. Flames and lava escape from the great crater, with showers of ashes and stones. The subterranean disturbance is greatest in the direction of Bronte; but the inhabitants are in extreme alarm all the way to Catania, and have made preparations for flight at any moment.

DEATH OF THE MARQUIS OF NORMANBY, K.G.

THE Marquis of Normanby, K.G., expired at three o'clock on Tuesday morning, at Hamilton Lodge, South Kensington. His illness assumed a serious aspect on Monday, and in consequence his brother, Sir Charles Phipps, and other near relatives, were summoned to London.

The Right Hon. Constantine Henry Phipps, Marquis of Normanby, Earl of Mulgrave, Viscount Normanby, and Baron Mulgrave, of Mulgrave, in the county of York, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom; Baron Mulgrave, of New Ross, in the county of Wexford, in the Peerage of Ireland; was the eldest son of Henry, first Earl of Mulgrave, by Martha Sophia, daughter of the late Mr. Christopher Thomson Maling, of West Herrington, in the county of Durham. His Lordship was born May 15, 1797, and was consequently in his sixty-seventh year. He married, Aug. 12, 1818, the Hon. Maria Liddell, eldest daughter of Thomas Henry, first Lord Ravensworth, by whom, who survives her husband, he leaves issue an only son, George Augustus Constantine, Earl of Mulgrave.

The late Marquis received his education at Harrow School, and at Trinity College, Cambridge, at which University he took his degree as M.A. before he was nineteen. Shortly after he attained his majority he entered Parliament as member for Scarborough, a borough wherein his family had great influence. His first speech in the House of Commons, made in 1819, was in favour of the Roman Catholic claims, and was considered by his political friends a decided success. He also earnestly seconded Lord John Russell's resolutions on Reform in a speech somewhat in advance of his party, and shortly afterwards resigned his seat in Parliament and retired to Italy. In 1822 he was elected member for Higham Ferrers, and shortly afterwards returned home to resume his position in the House of Commons. About that time he wrote several political pamphlets of considerable ability. In 1826, at the general election, he was chosen representative of the borough of Malton, and gave his support to Mr. Canning's Administration, and was a popular member of the Lower House. In the summer of 1832, having the previous year succeeded his father as Earl of Mulgrave, he was appointed Captain-General and Governor of Jamaica, an office he filled with much credit. On the formation of Lord Melbourne's first Administration he accepted the post of Lord Privy Seal, with a seat in the Cabinet. In April, 1835, Lord Melbourne being again at the helm of public affairs, Lord Normanby was selected for the important post of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. His reception in Dublin the following month was enthusiastic, and, altogether, he was a popular Viceroy. In June, 1838, he was created Marquis of Normanby. The deceased Peer, in February, 1839, succeeded Lord Glenelg as Secretary of State for the Colonies, an office he only filled a few months, for he removed in August that year to the Home Department, which post he held till September, 1841. In August, 1846, he was appointed Ambassador to Paris, where he remained till the early part of 1852. From December, 1854, till March, 1858, he was Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Florence. Since his recall from that diplomatic post he has not held any public employ, and his recent political conduct and opinions are well known. The late Peer, besides his political writings, was the author of several works of merit, among others, "Yes and No," "Matilda," "The Contrast," &c. In 1832 he was made a Privy Counsellor, and nominated Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, and in 1847 was made a Knight Grand Cross of the civil division of the Order of the Bath. His Lordship had the honour of being invested a Knight of the Garter in 1841.

The late Marquis is succeeded in the family honours by his only son, the Earl of Mulgrave, who represented Scarborough in the House of Commons during several Parliaments. He was formerly in the Scots Fusilier Guards, and subsequently in the North York Militia; and was treasurer of the Queen's Household from January, 1853, to February, 1858, having been Comptroller from July, 1851, to February, 1852. In January, 1858, he was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, and has recently returned. His Lordship married, August 17, 1844, Laura, daughter of the late Mr. Robert Russell.

THE INTERNATIONAL RIFLE-MATCH AT WIMBLEDON.

As we notified last week, the contest between eight marksmen belonging respectively to England and Scotland, for the Elcho challenge shield, which commenced on Thursday, the 16th ult., and was continued next day, resulted in the defeat, for the second time, of the Scottish champions by 83 points. Last year the Scotch were defeated by 166, but had improved on the late occasion, scoring 275 more than last year; and relatively more than the English, who only increased their number by 192 points. The eight men on the respective sides fired fifteen shots each at 800, 900, and 1000 yards; using any rifle, and in any position. The following are the names of the champions on each side, of all of whom we this week publish Portraits:—

England.—Captain Heaton, 3rd Manchester; Sergeant Martin Smith, Victoria; Lieutenant-Colonel Halford, Leicestershire; Viscount Bury, Civil Service; Lieutenant Hawker, South Middlesex; Private Ashton, Liverpool Rifle Brigade; Earl Dacre; Captain Rowland, H.M. 55th Foot.

Scotland.—Captain H. Ross, 6th Kincairdine; Captain E. Ross, Cambridge University; Mr. Hercules Ross, Bengal U.S.; Corporal W. Ferguson, Inverness; Mr. J. Farquharson; Master of Lovat, Inverness; Lieutenant Colin Ross, Cheshire; Lord Elcho, London Scottish.

This contest will, of course, be renewed again next year and on future occasions, when we trust that Scotland will continue to strive to show that the long-possessed and boasted superior skill of the English as marksmen is not to go unchallenged; while England's sons, we hope, will not fail to prove that they are legitimate descendants of the men who "drew a good bow at Hastings" and on many another well-fought field.

BRITISH MUSEUM.—From the foundation of the Museum, in 1753, to the 31st of March, 1863, the sum of £3,339,177 has been expended upon its maintenance and in purchases for the various collections. The number of visitors to the general collections at various periods will serve to show the progress of the institution. In 1845 the visitors were 11,989; in 1846, 24,409; in 1847, 127,843; in 1848, 289,104; in 1849, 325,614; in 1850 (the first Exhibition year), 427,210; in 1851 (the second Exhibition year), 608,614.



CAPT. HEATON. MR. ASHTON. VISCOUNT BURY. SERG. MARTIN SMITH. LIEUT.-COL. HALFORD. LIEUT. E. J. HAWKER. CAPT. ROWLAND.
LADY BURY. EARL DUCIE.
THE RIFLE-SHOOTING CONTEST AT WIMBLEDON.—THE ENGLISH EIGHT.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY HERBERT WATKINS.)



LORD ELCHO. CAPT. H. ROSS. MRS. ROSS. CAPT. E. ROSS. LIEUT. COLIN ROSS. THE MASTER OF LOVAT.
MR. HERCULES ROSS. CORPORAL W. FERGUSON. MR. J. FARQUHARSON.
THE SCOTTISH EIGHT.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY HERBERT WATKINS.)

THE DRAMATIC COLLEGE FETE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.



THE HERALD (MR. R. ROMER).



THE FLOWER-GIRL.



THE FEMALE GIANTESS IN THE PAUL-Y-TOOLE-Y-TICHNIC.



THE RUSH TO THE STALLS.



MESSRS. TOOLE AND PAUL BEDFORD'S PEEP-SHOW.



JACK-IN-THE-GREEN.

THE ROYAL DRAMATIC COLLEGE FETE AND FANCY FAIR.

When the Crystal Palace was first erected enthusiastic savants fondly expected that hardworking Londoners, statesmen, lawyers, merchants, mechanics, and their wives and families would seek Sydenham for the sake of science, and that the building and gardens would be looked on as a sort of umbrageous and al fresco British Museum. How completely their hopes have been annihilated need not be told. The gardens are an enormous playground, and the palace is a place for exhibitions, startling, sensational, and humorous. It is at times a Vauxhall without the vulgarity, and a Cremorne minus the fast men and over-dressed women. But of all days in the year—not forgetting Christmas revels, Foresters' fetes, and other anniversaries—the fete for the benefit of the Royal Dramatic College is, par excellence, the day set apart for the feast of unreason and the flow of fun. Then nonsense and good humour, generally close companions, walk hand-in-hand, and enjoyment and exorbitant prices—ordinarily sworn foes—weld together with the fraternal fury of long-sundered friends. It is needless to speak of the weather on Saturday and Monday last, or of the shoals of visitors who flocked to Sydenham; our daily contemporaries have done that. Let us devote our space to a description of the various attractions of the fete for the benefit of those who were not there to see it, and for the assistance of the memory of those who were.

To begin at the beginning, the opening of the fair was proclaimed by a gorgeously-dressed herald—the herald being none other than Mr. Robert Romer, who enjoys so large a share of popularity among his personal friends that he is as seldom called Robert as the celebrated Mr. Ridley, of melodious Ethiopian celebrity. The herald was accompanied by beefeaters, who were in their turn accompanied by a brass band. A clown, a policeman, and a transpontine dramatic villain—evidently, from their over-consciousness, personated by amateurs—were also of the party. The proclamation read—and we should recommend the revival of one of its clauses as being somewhat ambiguous—the rails that divided the public from the fancy fair in the transept, opposite the great orchestra, were removed, and a well-dressed multitude rushed forward, eager to see what actresses were really like by daylight. The holders of stalls were Mrs. Stirling, Mrs. Howard Paul, Mrs. Alfred Mellon, Mrs. Charles Young, Mrs. Leigh Murray, Mrs. H. Russell, Miss Kate Carson, Mrs. Billington, Miss Henrietta Simms, Miss Constance Aylmer, Miss Sara Nelson, Miss Carry Nelson, Miss E. Bufton, Miss Taylor, Miss Minnie Davis, Miss Elsworth, Miss Katherine Hickson, Miss Latimer, Mrs. and the Misses Conquest, Mrs. St. Henry, Miss E. Johnstone, Miss Maria Simpson, Miss Esther Jacobs, Miss Mitchell, the Misses Rivers, Miss Lavine, Miss Lydia Thompson, Miss G. Bristow, and the Misses Fanny and Paul Joseph. Over Mrs. Stirling's stall was displayed the Duke's motto, "I am here!" and Mrs. Howard Paul, among other fancy articles, offered for sale pieces of the Princess of Wales's wedding-cake at half-a-crown the homoeopathic lump. Purchasers received private information that these bits of bridal cake were not a Court confectioner's fiction, but portions of the veritable *gâteau de nocces* made for and cut up at the late interesting national nuptials. How many of our fair readers will regret not having yielded to Mrs. Howard Paul's solicitations, and sigh for a lump of the indigestible delicacy, upon which, after banqueting, they could have enjoyed a bad night's rest and dreamed of their future husbands! But we believe the cake did not hang heavily on hand, but met with a brisk sale at a high figure. One young lady, whose name we could not discover, either from our programme or personal friends, effluviated as a fleur-de-lis, and attached rosebuds and fuchsias to the buttonholes of delighted swells. We watched one young man thus daintily decorated, who kept touching his treasure as if to feel that it was safe. Such a souvenir was surely cheap at a farin, and no doubt now receives fresh water twice a day, and is gazed at dreamily during the operation of dressing.

Richardson's theatrical show was, as usual, one of the chief attractions of the fair. The thrilling melodrama offered to a mirth-seeking and shilling-spending public was entitled "Barbadozule Vanaglorioso, the Demon of the Castle Heights; or, the Brother's Revenge." To describe its plot or incidents, as it possessed neither of those usual attributes of dramas, would be impossible. Let it suffice that Mr. Toole appeared as the haughty villain, in Turkish trousers of the most voluminous dimensions; and that Mr. Paul Bedford personated the beautiful and defenceless Lagrimosa, in silky, flaxen ringlets and gorgeous satin petticoats; that the performances contained three ghosts; that the dialogue consisted mainly of chords of music, mutual recriminations, and the click of combat-swords—the ghosts joining in the melody with all the ardour of flesh and blood; and that the entire drama was played in a quarter of an hour. Richardson's, however, was not "the only booth in the fair." A Wombwell's Menagerie was erected not far from it, and the blare of trumpets and the clang of gongs invited the spectators to see the wonderful wild animals exhibiting within. A gladiatorial-looking lion-tamer walked up and down the "parade," and desecrated on the marvellous feats of his highly-trained collection. The interior of Wombwell's was excellently got up. There were genuine stuffed animals, in postures expressive of their natural ferocity and habitual propensities. There were also two living animals, described by a very fluent showman as "Jerusalem ponies, a species very rarely seen in England;" but this was not the show; behind a large red curtain mysterious howls and growls, mingled with the popping of corks from bottles, and phrases such as "Pass me a glass," "Where is the corkerew?" gave promise of other animals equally carnivorous and bitulous as the stuffed specimens in the cages. Children congregated near this curtain, each smooth face wearing that expression of pleased, expectant horror which would appear to be the peculiar delight of childhood. At last the band ceased playing, the keeper took his stand, and the policeman—a veritable truncheon-bearer of the distinguished A division, drew the scarlet drapery on one side, discovering a barred cage or den, and within it a number of gorillas, apes, monkeys, tigers, panthers, and one royal lion. So admirably were the "beasts" dressed and masked that the majority of the children near us believed them to be absolutely captured rovers of the forest. Van Amburgh towered in the midst in all the pride of superior intellect, golden sandals, and a red cloak. After a brief and humorous description from the keepers, the daring lion-tamer compelled the animals to leap through hoops, and go through the usual menagerie gymnastics, concluding by putting his head into the lion's mouth and afterwards withdrawing it therefrom. This last feat sent a thrill of agreeable terror through the breast of all little boys under twelve years of age present, and made them wish that they might grow up to be Van Amburghs—a blessing to their parents and the feared of the feline race. The keeper then thanked his audience, and suggested continual cheering, "because it sounded well from the outside." This being heartily responded to by the lovers of zoology, and the curtain once more drawn, the public were decanted through a side door into the palace.

At the Paul y-Toole-y-Technic Institution, Messrs. Paul Bedford and Toole appeared in their own proper persons as scientific professors. Mr. Toole delivered lectures on Astronomy, Architecture, Acoustics, and Optics, the time devoted to each subject being about three quarters of a minute. The natural sciences exhausted, he dashed off at a tangent to Zaddiel's crystal ball, the lime light, and Mr. Pepper's ghost. The patent spectro not being able to appear in consequence of being registered according to Act of Parliament, a New Zealand chieftain, of eccentric and antipodean habits, was brought upon the platform; and, last—but, according to long measure, certainly not least—the Corsican giants, a bearded lady, about eight feet high, who, unless our eyesight deceived us, bore a strong resemblance to Mr. Lionel Brough, of the real Polytechnic, in Regent-street. The giants, who spoke English with singular facility, attracted the curious that her head was colder by five degrees than her feet, in consequence of the greater altitude of the nobler portion of her anatomy; that she came from Corsica, and was own sister to the Corsican brothers; and that they—i.e., herself and relatives—had always been a remarkable family, known to go any

lengths in the prosecution of vengeance or the attainment of inches.

No sooner had we quitted this scientific arena than we nearly ran into the branches of Jack-in-the-Green. There was the ambulating and revolving bush, suggestive of a comic Bismarck Wood, surrounded by a dancing clown, Mr. Steinhenson; two village lasses; a My Lord, Mr. C. J. Smith; and a My Lady. In this last personage we recognised, in all the amplitude of white muslin skirts and all the witchery of braided hair, no other than the same Mr. Robert Romer who had already done such good service as the Herald. My Lord footed it with every appearance of senile enjoyment, and the Lady Roberta frisked, swam, sprawled, and languished with the matronly grace befitting her magnificent proportions and lofty rank.

The ubiquitous Messrs. Toole and Bedford, who seemed to pervade every portion of the palace, found time to refresh themselves from their voracious labours at Richardson's and the Paul-y-Toole-y-Technic by exhibiting a Peepshow, where the pathetic story of Black-Eyed Susan was treated in the wildest spirit of caricature. The artist of these comic cartoons was Mr. McConnell.

Our space does not permit us to particularise each of the many entertainments offered by an anxious committee to an eager public. We can, therefore, but briefly mention a Punch and Judy show exhibited by Mr. Rivers of the Olympic; a tortoise-shell tom cat, regarding whose sex we have the strongest doubts; the White Lilies of the Prairie, a band of amateur negro minstrels; a gipsy tent, where fortunes were told; some very clever performing birds and mice; the Temple of the Road to Happiness, where spinsters and bachelors beheld the future partners of their bosoms; the Aunt Sallys kept by Messrs. H. Widdicombe and Sefton; and Mr. Tanner's troupe of acting dogs and monkeys. We may say, however, that the real monkeys were not a patch upon their human imitators a few yards from them. The press was represented by the *Royal Dramatic College News*, a fresh edition of which was published every half-hour, and which contained contributions from the pens of Messrs. Stirling Coyne, H. J. Byron, F. C. Burnand, T. Robertson, F. Buckstone, H. Robinson, J. Reddish, William Brough, Mark Lemon, and others.

And all this for charity! Some classic minds object to the exertions of professional people, unless made with a severely intellectual end and aim. Others say that actors and actresses should never show themselves by daylight. To one class of dissentients we would remark that to the visitors to the Crystal Palace on these occasions one of the tragedies of *Æschylus* would not be so attractive as Jack-in-the-Green. To the other, that if our comedians dispense with gaslight and meet the public hand-in-hand, it is but for a few brief hours in the year, and in the cause of their humbler and less fortunate brethren.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

It came into my head last Tuesday to go to the House of Lords and see the Parliament prorogued, and this is my decisive verdict—viz., that there is no ceremonial in China or Japan more ridiculously absurd. On the woolsack, when I entered, there sat the five Royal Commissioners—to wit, the Lord High Chancellor, flanked on his left by the Earl of St. Germans and Baron Wensleydale, and on his right by the Duke of Newcastle and Lord Stanley of Alderley. And a singular show they made. They were all dressed in their scarlet robes, and all had opera hats on their heads, except my Lord Chancellor, who mounted on the top of his huge wig a triangular hat. At first these figures reminded me of Madame Tussaud's wax-work exhibition; and when they moved the illusion was not dispelled, for some of the Baker-street figures move, you know, and the movements of the noble Lords were so stiff that it was easy to imagine that they were caused by machinery. Presently there came a rushing noise, then a chattering, and suddenly Mr. Speaker and his Serjeant appeared at the bar, with a mob of members behind him. When Mr. Speaker got fairly into position, the three automata all at once gravely lifted their hats, and then the play began. My Lord Chancellor read something, by which, for the first time, I realised the fact that he was alive, and not a waxen figure; then a clerk read something, during the reading of which the big-wigs again lifted their hats in turn, and then the same clerk began to read over the titles of the bills which waited the Royal assent, and this giving of the Royal assent was the queerest part of the whole performance. The mouth-piece of her Majesty was Sir John Lubbock, and the assent is given in this fashion:—The Clerk cries out, for example, "Bill for making fools wise and rogues honest." "La Reine le veut," cries Sir John Lubbock, with a bow first to the Lords and then another to the Commons; and this is repeated at the naming of every public bill. When a private bill is called, the words are "La Reine s'aviserà;" whilst a money bill is assented to in this form, "La Reine remercie ses loyal sujets, accepte leur bénévolence et ainsi le veut." But the humour of the thing is in the bows. There were 103 bills, and at every bill Sir John gave two bows, making in all 206 bows, besides about a dozen more given at different parts of the ceremonial. Only fancy that, reader! I once heard of a hungry apprentice boy, who was so wearied with his master's long Puritanic graces before meat that he suggested that his "governor" should say a long grace once for all over the pork-tub. It was not a bad idea, though perhaps lacking in reverence; but, surely, one assent and two bows might do for every class of bills. We are, however, very Conservative in the matter of these old dead forms. And this is not surprising, seeing that so many people get a living out of them. "Abolish ceremonies!" said a certain gilt individual. "Why, you would abolish me; for what am I but a ceremony?" It is but fair to say that my Lord Chancellor read the Royal speech admirably; and how jolly he looked when he once woke up, with that round, ruddy face of his shining out of his huge wig like the full moon in a framework of fleecy clouds!

The Session is over. And now I come before my readers as a true prophet; for did I not foretell at its beginning, more than once, that we should have no Ministerial crisis this Session? and has not my prophecy been fulfilled to the letter? For not only have we had no change, but no sign of change. And now the Liberal Government seems to be firmer in its seat than it appeared to be when Parliament assembled. Happy Ministers! It is no joke, though, for the gentlemen on the other side. I do not mean the leaders, for Derby don't want office, and Disraeli has a pension of £2000 a year, which is a nice cushion for a hard seat; but to the younger members of the party it is anything but pleasant to be thus loitering. Session after Session, in the hungry land of dreams. To have the cherry overlastingly bobbing at one's mouth and not to be able to get a bite is a great "bawr." But there is no help for it at present—they must go on still waiting. "Yes, that's all very well," says Biogg; "but who the dickens is to pay the tailor?" Ah! to be sure. I never thought of that. Well, I suppose he must wait, too, and charge it in the bill. Things are really getting serious, though; for, you see, the longest credit, like the longest rope, must have an end.

Twelve years have passed away since "A Belgravia," in a sensible letter to the leading journal—much commented on at the time—condemned our London cabs as real, original, ill-regulated public conveniences. Since then—thanks to the late Mr. Fitzroy—the laws and customs affecting cabs have been considerably improved. The substitution of the sixpenny for the eightpenny mileage fare—the abolition of that fertile cause of dispute, "back fare"—and the appointment of a decently-clad, generally civil, waterman to each stand, are all substantial benefits. But the cabs themselves? Are they not as crazy, rattlebackle, rickety, and as much the reverse of the feet bath of foul straw, the nosing under the seat, the view of the pavement through the chinks in the bottom, and the general air of damp dreariness which pervades our public vehicles? Whether the horse or the driver is the worst specimen of his genus, who cares to inquire? It is enough to know that we are behind every capital in Europe in this particular, and that the vehicles of Paris, the *fiacres* of Vienna (the lightest and most elegant public conveyances in the world)—ay, even the droshkies of St. Petersburg, are better managed and more thoroughly efficient than are the egg-boxes upon

wheels we dignify with the name of cabs. Well, all this is to be changed. Pretty little broughams, with comely, well-kept steeds, driven by men in a neat livery, are to supersede the sorry grievances I have named. A company has been formed which promises all this, so-called its hackney-broughams are already in operation, and I speak from personal experience when I say that this brougham-cab company gives its patrons more comfort, civility, and other essentials than has hitherto been attainable by the London "fare."

And, apropos of locomotion, let me advise the gentleman who complains so bitterly in the newspapers that tickets are not issued at the railway stations "until fifteen and sometimes only ten minutes before the starting of the train," to dine at Blackwall. Let him not only dine, but daily pleasantly with desert until it is time to catch the last train to town. He will then find his efforts at ticket-taking utterly futile until half a minute before the train starts. Clerk absent, ticket-desk shut up, and an impassive porter, who replies to your energetic remonstrances by a stolid "Plenty of time, Sir!" constituted my experience the other night, and make, I think, a more substantial grievance than the one complained of by "A Sufferer."

Sir Richard Bethel, the Lord Chancellor, has a well earned reputation for saying spiteful things in the most dulcet tones, and this and other virtues have made him far from popular with the Bar. When, therefore, Mr. Malins recanted, the other day, what was felt to be an undue interference with the rights and liberties of the forensic subject, the Bar was thoroughly well pleased. "I am sorry, if what I have said has given you offence," commenced his repentant Lordship. "It has, my Lord, deep offence," broke in Mr. Malins; and, on the principle of thunder clearing the air, it is insisted that these little amenities will free the atmosphere of the Lord Chancellor's court of a certain crochety bumpousness, sufficiently offensive to the practicers therein.

Not to know "Charlie Tyrwhitt," at all events by name and reputation, is to argue yourself unknown to the pleasure-loving, park-haunting, opera-frequenting world of London. Essentially what is called "a good fellow," a splendid rider across country, a keen judge of a horse, thoroughly up in the latest gossip, a cheerful, pleasant companion, Colonel Tyrwhitt of the Guards has a social reputation for which he may be envied, and a circle of friends large enough to fill St. Paul's to overflowing. But these qualities, admirable though they be, will not justify the promotion said to be meditated by the Commander-in-Chief. With that amiability and strong sense of personal liking for his daily associates which is one of the characteristics of the Duke of Cambridge, it has been not quite settled, but significantly mooted, that Colonel Tyrwhitt (who was Aide-de-Camp to his Royal Highness in the Crimea, and again from 1856 until the present time) shall in due course be placed upon the fixed establishment of General Officers, and receive the pay of that rank. As this cannot be done save in open violation of the Queen's warrant for regulating promotion in the Army, military politicians (especially the Colonels who would have their promotion delayed) are vehemently protesting against what would be a manifest injustice to the service generally. The twenty-seventh clause of the warrant referred to stipulates that "to entitle an officer to the unattached pay of a General Officer, such officer" (please observe the inverted commas, and that the tautology is not mine) "must have actually served six years with the rank of a Regimental Field Officer;" and, as Colonel Tyrwhitt went on half-pay at his own request before he had completed twenty-one years' service, before he had been six years a Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel, and during the progress of the Crimean campaign, it appears that, save and except the personal friendship of the Commander-in-Chief, there is no one plea to be advanced in favour of the threatened promotion. The "yellow," or asterisk, rank, is alone open to him; and it would be not only a cruel kindness to this gallant officer to place him in a false position, but would elicit such a storm of complaint from other gallant officers, and such complete disapproval from the public and the press, that I earnestly hope the advisers of the Commander-in-Chief will see the wisdom of discountenancing the step.

If crowds of well-dressed people, a presumably large increase to the exchequer, and much loud laughter constitute a success, then let me congratulate the council of the Dramatic College. The Crystal Palace seemed to me fuller last Saturday than at any of their previous fetes; Richardson's booth was as popular as ever; the wild beasts fulfilled Bottom's aspiration, and were made "to roar again;" and again; the "tortoise-shell Tom," the fortune-telling, and stalls of the ladies, each of these departments of art had a numerous constituency eager to be, like Dickens of Norfolk, both "bought and sold." And now let me ask whether it occurred to any one concerned that the whole affair was rather derogatory than elevating to the status of a noble profession? With the deepest sympathy for the objects of the Dramatic College, and the fullest belief in the earnestness and good faith of its promoters, I confess to have been startled at sundry incongruities, and to have been unpleasantly conscious of a certain air of good humoured but supercilious patronage among the lookers-on. Surely, the noisy co-operation of a gentleman who is known to fame as "the Protean witness" of the improving "Judge and Jury," instituted by the late Mr. Renton Nicholson, is not essential to the interests of the drama. Surely, his burlesque face, masquerade attire, and ubiquitous activity, must have evoked in some minds a train of thought neither germane to the day nor respectful to the ladies and gentlemen who were so earnestly labouring to promote its success. That the council will continue to derive a large income from these shows, and that the income so gained will be kindly and judiciously administered, is beyond doubt. But I would, in all simplicity, beg them to remember that to the outer world the stage and its occupants are *terra incognita*, and that thousands of well-meaning average people form their judgment of the actor's private life from the impressions they receive at the Crystal Palace. The council occupy therefore, *pro tem*, not merely the position of directors of a charitable institution, but that of guardians—self-constituted, it may be, but still guardians—of the dignity of the profession; and it is of at least equal importance with the augmentation of their funds that actors and actresses should not seem to differ in any particular, either of habit, manner, or association, from lawyers or doctors, or other professional bread-winners and their wives. Whether the arrangement and details of Saturday entirely fulfilled these requirements, or whether there was an element of half-puzzled, half-amused bewonderment at being face to face with "those funny people, the players," in the enjoyment expected for the half-crowns paid, I will not now ask. The council have a delicate duty to perform, and their aims have the hearty suffrages of all well-wishers to the stage; but the means used must be thought of as well as the end; and it behoves them to be especially careful that they give no handle to a world swift to form conclusions, and not chary of throwing stones.

Undue blackballing is an epidemic which appears to attack, more or less virulently, all clubs in turn. Was it not the late Bishop of London who threatened that if one of the University clubs did not give up "pilling persons," he would come down with an army of blackcoats and blackball every man proposed? The Reform Club suffered so severely a few months back that it effected a radical change in its mode of election, and now I learn that the Gresham (the second City club) is seriously discomposed at a recent unwarrantable use of the right of rejection.

As I anticipated, Dr. Richardson's tacit defence of the tobacco plant has roused its opponents, who are eagerly testifying against it. Dr. Wordsworth, of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, insists that its excessive use produces atrophy of the optic nerve, and instances a custom-house clerk, aged twenty-one, a stallwart butcher, and a railway signalman—all employed out of doors—who have been treated by him for partial loss of sight, such loss being solely attributable to smoking at the rate of (in one case) from 1 lb. to 1½ lb. of strong tobacco a week. Dr. Gibbs, too, pleasantly insists that "true follicular disease of the throat and larynx" is brought on by tobacco-smoking; and, with a grotesque touch that reminds one of Abernethy, refers to "my work" on throat diseases, in corroboration of his own opinion. Fight away, gentlemen! but you will have difficulty in persuading the healthy man who takes his pipe or cigar, as he does his tea, in moderation, that he is thereby

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THE SHEPHERDESS.

From the days of the shepherd kings, whose followers were so strong and numerous that they were very justly respected by their neighbours, down even to our own time, the keepers of flocks and herds have held a humble but important part in the history of mankind.

Many of the heroes of antiquity, both in the sacred and profane chronicles, have followed this calling. To "those who watched their flocks by night" there came the immediate revelation of the great deliverance, and most of our literature is intimately associated with the shepherds' songs or legends.

There would seem to be something in the solitary existence—the wonderful stillness, the silent communion with nature—which is inseparable from the shepherd's life, that produces a sort of exaltation of those faculties most closely allied to a perception of the supernatural; and it will generally be found that a wistful, solemn look, and a subdued, often a deeply religious, character, are partially to be attributed to the meditations which seem to occur most naturally to people so circumstanced.

The Australian shepherd even, whatever may have been his previous career (and his office of stockman is more exciting and active than that of sheep or cattle keeping in Europe), generally becomes tamed into a grave, serious man, by solitude and the constant companionship of his own thoughts. Indeed, if a man has not the mental strength to fall into such communion and to be sobered and probably bettered thereby, he becomes insane; and few men could bear a shepherd's life for many years without definite occupations to employ them, even while they watch their flocks. So shepherds carve wooden toys in Germany and Switzerland; those of the "Landes" in the south-west of France, who move over the moory flats and thorny plains on high stilts, poise themselves on a long stick, and, sitting like tall, human tripods, knit away for whole days. The old Scotch shepherd knows chapter and verse of his Bible, and there have been instances of his being able to repeat the Four Gospels or to name chapter and verse of any quotation in either. Even in children that peculiarly melancholy, wistful look, which seems so often to belong to this solitary life, shows itself very young; and in girls is especially apparent. In our Engraving, which is taken from a picture by M. Antigna, this expression has been caught by the artist; and his little Bretonne shepherdess might stand as the representative of some youthful saint, the rapt expression being refined somewhat. M. Antigna is celebrated for these simple but suggestive pictures; and his career has been an honourable one, as it well deserved to be, since he has produced some of the most charming works of the French school. In the Exposition of 1847 he obtained a medal of the third class, in 1848 one of the second class, in 1851 one of the first class. In 1855 he also obtained a reward from the Commissioners of the Universal Exhibition in Paris, and in 1861 received the Cross of the Legion of Honour. His "Incendiary," now placed in the Luxembourg, is perhaps his finest and best-known picture. The "Inundation" was scarcely so successful; but he is principally celebrated for his figures of girls and children, of which "The Mendicant" and that from which our Engraving is taken are the most striking.

AN OWL, TO WIT.

ONLY think how things are disguised! Now, this old gentleman whom you may see in the picture walking about among his books, just as if he had been reading them, how wise he looks and how stupid he is! His appearance has not only taken in his friends, but has even deceived himself. They call him a Philosopher. He has invented for himself the title of Metaphysical-Political Economist. He has written down the title of his forthcoming folio, "On the Nonentity of Nobody, considered as an Individual;" he has read a "Paper;" he has built a library; he is irritable, and all his clothes are too large for him. Yet he is not wise. Indeed, among the great discoveries of the day this one secret remains. How has it happened that old Gilliblowet has moulted his pretty speckled feathers? He must have been very happy in them. A quiet tree for a hiding-place, a few mice for provender, and no Critic near to find him out. Could anything have been more delightful?

In confidence, I do not mind telling you that there was a deep reason for this change. You see, before he had covered up all his stupidity in feathers he was so much afraid of exposing it that he came out all over prickles; and when he tells you that he is very

irritable, remember that he was once a fretful porcupine. But earlier in his history he was a great and shining light—that is to say, a three-stem candlestick; and it is curious that, having sprung from that stick, or stock, he should hold his great Book, which, being developed from a pair of snuffers, will probably ultimately extinguish him. But this was a strange selection. It is not given to many men, after being snuffed out by a pair of literary snuffers, to burn again in triple, or even to develop from a Hedgehog through Porcupine, into a sage-looking Owl, thence down to an unconvicted Philosopher. But, as Dr. Charles Darwin, in another phase of existence, once exclaimed, "Such is life, which also is the end of all things!"

C. H. B.

Zante is not more than eight miles distant from Cephalonia, but it is forty miles from Argostoli to Zante city. The whole of the east coast is past in making this trip. It is well wooded and interesting, but the cliffs are low and the high ground is distant. One sees at once the character of the land, and the contrast with the other islands is very marked.

The city of Zante is the most handsome and most pleasant town in the Ionian Islands. The sea front is well built and extensive. There are two or three squares or public places of considerable extent, several streets consisting of fine old stone houses constructed in the Italian style with arcades, and a number of ecclesiastical buildings, both of the Greek and Roman Church, very creditable in themselves, and with bell-

towers adjoining of better style than usual in the islands. Some of the streets are tolerably wide, and the shops though with small frontage, are capacious and well conducted. In almost all respects this town gives one the impression of belonging to a lively, thriving, intelligent people, retaining strong marks of their recent history within the last three centuries, and by no means unimprovable.

The character of the Zantiots is peculiar, and differs from that of the inhabitants of Corfu, Santa Maura, and Cephalonia. They are singularly lively and excitable, spend money freely, are fond of show, and delight in every excitement. For some years past, owing to the terrible attacks to which the currant-vines have been subject, the crops of that highly important and staple fruit have been extremely variable, and the result to the grower and merchant has been mischievous in the extreme. The import of currants into England from Zante and Cephalonia jointly, which had approached ten thousand tons, dropped suddenly, and in 1857 amounted only to four thousand. In 1860 and 1861 it rose again to nearly eight thousand, and seems increasing and likely to increase. The estimated value varies less, but is still large enough to affect the merchant and grower very seriously. The prospects of the crop of the present year are very favourable.

Everything that affects the currant trade is vital to Zante, and when the union with Greece is completed there will be some clashing of interests, for Zante, Patras (on the main land), and Cephalonia, all depend largely for their prosperity on this crop, and certainly cannot afford to have anything done that would check the traffic. On the other hand, an export duty levied on the fruit is so easily collected, yields so much money, and so little affects the islanders generally, that it will always be a favourite means of raising funds. It is to be feared that the temptation to increase this tax may be so great and carry the Government so far as to check the foreign trade and greatly increase smuggling, which is already large.

The currant-vine grows admirably in the central part of Zante, which is low, sheltered, and covered with a rich soil. The actual crop in Zante is not so large as in Cephalonia, the returns for 1860 showing respectively 14,000,000 lb. and 16,000,000 lb. for the two islands; but the cultivation in Zante is all in one wide tract, whereas in Cephalonia it is spread over many detached parts of the island. Cephalonia also has almost exactly double the area of Zante. The crop requires much care, and is subject to failure from many causes, though it is only the "oidium," that singular grape disease that a few years ago overspread Europe like the cholera, devastating the vineyards and spoiling a whole year's growth.

The work in the currant vineyards begins in October, after the crop is removed and before the heavy rains fall that are common in the late autumn. The vines are planted in rows about three or four feet apart, and are either propagated from shoots obtained after the vine has been cut away below the ground or by grafting on a grape-vine stock. The latter is the more rapid method, the former plants requiring six years to come to bearing, whereas the grafts are ready in three years. Owing to the greater value of the currant crop, many grape vineyards have been sacrificed of late years. The grafting is done in spring, a foot below the surface of the ground. The planting of the shoots, which are cut off in December, does not take place till spring.

Early in October, before the rains, the ground is prepared for irrigation, and for this purpose most of the currant vineyards are surrounded with ditches, great care being taken that each plant shall be flooded. In December the trees are cleaned, everything being removed of the year's growth but three or four vigorous branches well placed so as not to crowd each other. Much judgment is required for this. Towards the end of February these remaining



THE SHEPHERDESS.—(FROM A PICTURE, BY M. ANTIGNA, IN THE PARIS EXHIBITION OF FINE ARTS.)

IONIAN ISLANDS.

ZANTE.

THE island of Zante has been celebrated at all times among the ancients for its woody and leafy shade, and in more modern times for its flowers and fruits. It has been called the "Flower of the Levant," and it deserves the title. Unlike the other islands the hills form a half circle round the western and northern coast, leaving the central, eastern, and southern parts comparatively low, and forming a great plain broken with a few hills which are not rocky and mountainous, as is the case with all the other Ionian Islands. There is thus a richly cultivated district of great extent compared with the area of the island, and all this can be seen at a glance either from the sea or much better from the hills on the east or south side. At the south-eastern extremity of the island is a remarkable conical hill, called Mount Scopus, or the look-out admirably adapted for the purpose indicated by its name.

branches are cut back, and at this second pruning the ground is moved about the roots so as to expose them to the air and water. In April the ground is turned up deeply, and, if necessary, is manured. It is then leveled, and all is ready for the growth of the season, which rarely commences much before May.

When it has once begun to leaf, however, the growth is wonderfully rapid. The young shoots and buds have to be preserved from injury, and then, in the course of a few weeks, the whole of Nature's work is done. From the last week in April to the first or second week in July is sufficient to throw out the leaves and blossoms and form and ripen fruit. It is then fit for the table, and is a delicious fruit, in large clusters of very small black grapes. A little more time is needed to ripen it for drying, and the vintage does not take place till August. At this time much depends on the weather, as rain is destructive to the crop.

The drying takes place in the sun, the fruit being frequently turned and exposed to the air. Frames are prepared to protect it should rain fall. When thoroughly dried the grapes are removed from the stalk and put into bags, in which they are carried to the merchants' storehouses in the city, where they are packed very closely in barrels for exportation.

The consumption of currants in England is very large, and Germany is also a large buyer; but after England the Northern States of America are the most important traders with all the Ionian Islands. The value of the currants on the spot averages about £12 per ton, and they are subject to an export duty of 18 per cent, but the price varies greatly, according to the season, and has been much higher.

Besides currants and grapes, Zante yields a fair supply of oil, which is made in the French fashion from the unripe fruit, the

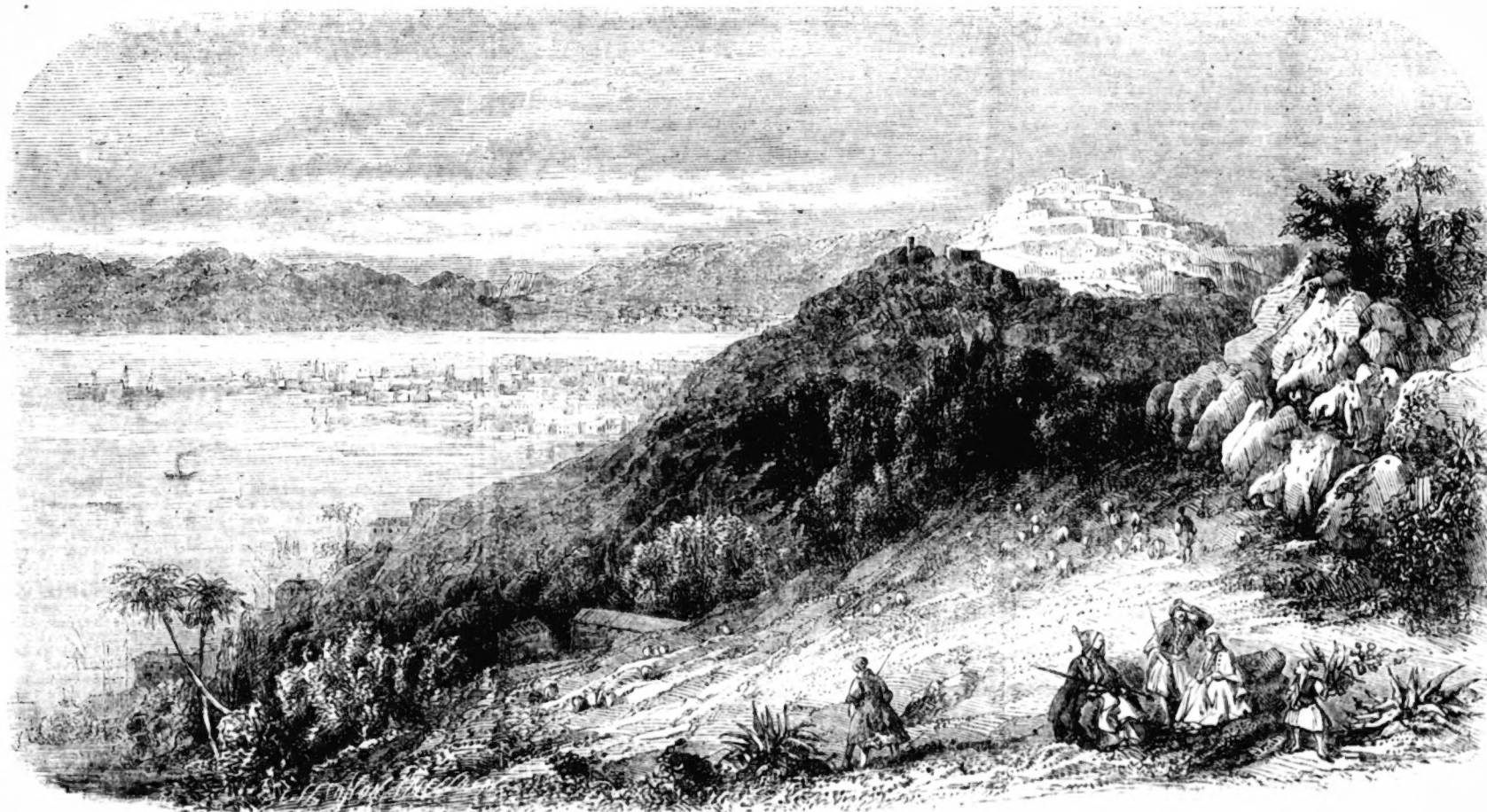
THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES, DEDICATED BY NATURAL SELECTION TO DR. CHARLES DARWIN.



NO. 12.—AN OWL, TO WIT.—(DRAWN BY CHARLES H. BENNETT.)

tree being pollarded and manured. Although, however, more care is taken in the manufacture than in the other islands, the quality of the oil is not preferred in the Eastern market. Other fruits are excellent, including oranges, of which there is a curious kind without any of that sub-acid flavour that belongs to the fruit generally.

There are two remarkable mineral productions in Zante—the pitch wells and the grease spring—one is on the south coast, in the Bay of Chieri, and the other on the east coast. The former is the most important, the latter being only curious. The pitch wells are situated in a small valley opening to the sea, and scarcely above the sea level. They are about two hours' ride from the town, and close to the hills in the southwestern part of the island. In a small marshy plain, intersected by wide, deep ditches, without which it would be entirely swampy, there are at present two pits, sunk a little below the soil, that yield the pitch. In these pits the water is about eighteen inches deep, and the pitch appears bubbling up slowly, and when disturbed rises slowly to the surface. It is generally lifted by sticks and brushes, and put into other pits, but is too tenacious to move much without assistance. It is not easy to say how much bitumen might be obtained, but the quantity would probably be very large, and the quality is such as to allow of its being used without preparation for caulking ships and other similar purposes. Carburetted hydrogen gas rises in bubbles through the pitch. Little use is made of this mineral at present, but it might probably be valuable for distillation, especially as parts of it would answer for fuel. A supply, though never large, has been obtained from the same spot from time immemorial, and in the time of Herodotus there was a pit as much as 70 ft. in cir-



ZANTE.

circumstances. Indications of this large pit may still be traced. The grease springs are in a different part of the island, and are not of any practical advantage. They are very inaccessible except during the finest and calmest weather.

Like all the Ionian Islands, Zante has been subjected to several earthquake shocks. In the year 1814 it is recorded that the hill behind the town was rent from top to bottom; but so lately as 1819 the whole town of Zante was destroyed and the country villages suffered severely; some were almost annihilated. So serious was this disturbance that after the first great crash as many as ninety-five distinct shocks were counted within five days. The damage was estimated at £399,000. The mountain villages escaped injury, almost all the shock occurring in the plains. It is a curious fact that the earthquakes affecting one island rarely extend to the others, although about the same season several are visited by shocks.

D. T. ANSTED.

Literature.

Person and People; or, Incidents in the Every-day Life of a Clergyman. By the Rev. EDWARD SPOONER, M.A., Vicar of Heston, Middlesex. Seeley and Co.

Messrs. Seeley, Jackson, and Halliday are not publishers of what is called entertaining literature; but this little volume contains more really amusing matter than the immense majority of books that are written expressly to tickle the fancy. Mr. Spooner is a very sensible, observant gentleman, with a long memory, a kind heart, and an eye for what is funny. That he is sensible is plain from one fact which his book records among many others—namely, that he has a service in his parish expressly for the younger children who are not habitually taken to church and forced to sit out the three long, unintelligible hours. And that he has all the usual characteristics of the English gentleman, including his tolerance, sociableness, and good temper, will soon be made plain to anybody who will buy his book on the strength of the recommendation which we are glad to be able to give.

Mr. Spooner is not a book that calls for many words in the shape of critical comment, and we shall do best by giving a specimen or two of the anecdotes which it contains. As he was one of the best-abused men going, so long as the Cheese affair was fresh in men's minds, it is doing a bit of fair play to tell a hearty, manly anecdote of the

LATE BISHOP OF DURHAM.

One day, when I was not very well, Mr. Villiers's Curate came in to me and began to speak to me, and I got very angry with him, and kicked him out of the house. Next day, who should knock at the door but the Vicar himself. When I opened it he walked in, and, quietly shutting it after him, took a chair and, placing it so that he planned me into a corner, sat down. "B—," says he, "I hear you kicked my Curate out of your house yesterday." "Yes, I did; what did he want to come bothering me for?" "Well, I'm come to-day, and you can scarcely kick me out, I'm too big; so I'll give you a bit of my mind." And he did give me a bit of his mind, and, I'll promise you, I was never so talked to before or since; and after a while, though I was very angry at first, I began to listen to him.

There is a very good story about a shy, gentle clergyman, who had been preaching a sermon upon the use of the rod, and especially upon moderation in the use of it. With what degrees of success he had made himself understood will be gathered from this little anecdote about

DELICATE FLATTERY.

His congregation was attentive, and he thought to himself that he laid down every condition necessary to insure that chastisement, if needed, should be wisely and judiciously administered. Poor man! Two mornings afterwards as he was walking in his garden he spied a neighbour—a great, coarse, and most vulgar woman, one whom he always shrank from—looking over the hedge. He drew back, and quietly turned into a side path; but escape was impossible. In a voice which could not but be heard, his neighbour screamed out, "Mr. Archdeacon! Mr. Archdeacon! I want to speak to you." The Archdeacon turned back, and, drawing nigh to her, politely asked what she wished to say. "A lovely sermon that of yours on Sunday—a lovely sermon, Sir. I hope we shall all profit by it. I've acted on it at once. Our Bill, Sir, was a bad boy yesterday, so I took a stick and lapped him till I couldn't stand over him any longer." Need I say the poor sensitive preacher sunk away overpowered by such delicate flattery.

Mr. Spooner is very earnest in advising good-natured persons never to respond to a begging-letter without personal inquiry, and tells, by way of caution, the following story of

A DEAD HUSBAND.

A very dear and shrewd friend was talking to the clergyman of his parish when a poor woman drew near, and, with tears in her eyes, entreated aid to bury her dead husband. Her tale was well told; but experience had made her listeners very cautious. A personal visit was promised to her house, and accepted. The woman went off, and was shortly afterwards followed by my friends, who, on reaching her house, went straight upstairs. Admitted to the room, they saw on the bed a veritable corpse; the face ashy white, the jaw bound up, a penny on each eyelid, &c. Ample aid was given to the sorrowing widow; and, with kind words of sympathy, my friends left. Arrived in the street, however, the house door had been shut upon them, the clergyman missed his gloves; he had left them on the chimney-piece upstairs, and both the friends returned to fetch them. The room of death was again reached; the door was suddenly opened, but all words of apology for the intrusion were cut short by words of horror; for the corpse was sitting by the bedside counting over the money!

It is not to be expected, or perhaps desired, that a book by a clergyman should be without clerical mannerisms; nor that any book whatever should be without points upon which controversies might be waged; but the world would get on a good deal better if every teacher of religion were like Mr. Spooner—as willing to be pleased and as ready to move frankly and gaily upon any level where human beings can live and keep what is really human. We wish him and his pretty old church much success.

LOVE STORIES.

Adrian L'Etrange; or, Moulded out of Faults. Smith, Elder, and Co.

Forbidden Fruit. By J. T. 2 vols. Smith, Elder, and Co.

Some relaxation from the sternly-didactic novel does not seem undesirable, now that Christianity in fiction has become so muscular that all the heroes threaten to become heroes of warfare. But, tiresome as the teaching of Mr. Kingsley and Mr. Hughes was becoming, we must protest against the kind of antidote supplied by the authors of "*Adrian L'Etrange*" and "*Forbidden Fruit*." It is love. The most objectionable kind of love story. Love, still love. Absolutely nothing else in either book, excepting the occasional flashes of base villainy, which, after all, are invariably dictated by the best intentions—namely, love itself. Byron's "love of the turtle" is all very well when accompanied by the "rage of the vulture;" but the two present writers even omit that milder form of rage, the "little avenger," with which the most endurable love is said always to commence. No long summary of the stories shall be given here; not that there would be much danger of spoiling the interest for novel-readers of six months' standing, but because a passage or two from both will sufficiently show them the kind of morality they wish to cultivate or reject. Here it is Mr. Adrian L'Etrange, a young English gentleman, travelling in France with a tutor, but temporarily settled at the village of Alenvalle. In a shop he happens to meet some English ladies, inquires about them, follows them to their chateau, and before long makes love in the following style:—

Lily instinctively withdrew herself from the arm which Adrian had thrown round her, and walked beside him, silent and trembling, while Rachel spoke.

Adrian made no effort to detain her, but, as they stopped at the garden door, he said, gravely, "Lilian, listen to me. I tell you here, before your sister, who seems to be your only support and protector, that I love you more than my life, that I seek no blessing from Heaven but your love, and that, with it, I require nothing more. A mystery—it may be a dark one—hangs round you. But what it may, I seek not to penetrate it. Your name, your station, are nothing to me. It is you I love, you my soul longs for; and now answer me with one word, one look. Does your heart echo these words or not?"

"Rachel, Rachel! what must I say? what must I do?" implored Lily, without venturing even a look at Adrian.

"Answer him truly, my darling. Such a question must be answered as it is asked," said Rachel, sadly.

"Then I do love you. Oh, Adrian! my Adrian! I love you with my whole

soul!" And Lily found herself in Adrian's arms, with his kisses thrilling from her lip into her very heart. Rachel stood by, with an expression on her face such as an angel might have worn in paradise watching the bliss of our first parents and foreseeing their doom.

Doom indeed! Lilian's father proves to be an escaped schemer and forger; and, whilst Adrian is being "rowed" by his father, Lilian is made the victim of a forced and false marriage with an accomplished scoundrel, named Darcy Pierrepont. Adrian then confides a narrative of the horrible events to another lady, proposes, and is accepted; but, on the very eve of the marriage, he hears news of Lilian, and immediately flies to her. She is recovering from madness, and they begin to get on well enough, when Darcy appears. Lilian escapes "from his touch" on to a terrace, and thence to the edge of a precipice, "loose and crumbling," and beneath "the rock goes sheer down, some fifty feet or more, before it is hidden by the tops of the trees which grow along the banks of Drummie Water."

"Don't come near me! don't touch me. I will die sooner than be touched by you!" she screamed, shrinking yet nearer to the "perilous verge." A bitter, fearful oath escaped the lips of Darcy Pierrepont, and he took two or three heavy strides towards the spot where Lilian stood. As she saw him coming she strove in her blind, frenzied terror to get still a further from him without moving her eyes from the object of her insane dread. The crumbling wall gave way beneath her feet; she tottered, and threw out her arms wildly. "Help, Adrian! Help! help!"

There was a rush of falling stones and a cloud of dust. A long, shrill, ringing shriek, and the sound of a heavy body crashing through the branches of the trees below. Then all was still.

The two men looked at each other for a moment aghast. Then Adrian, with a cry of despair, sprang over the ruined wall, and disappeared also.

Whilst everybody is in despair Adrian walks up the precipice, of course through tops of trees and all, bearing the body of Lilian. She is dead. He also bleeds to death, but revives. Next, he is a volunteer at the storming of Lucknow, and at Silerio, and in the next chapter marries Catherine, his second love. Thus "everything comes in time to those who can wait." But let us see how everything comes to such a pair, whose love has been of a most monstrous kind. Adrian's father, who objected to the first marriage, has been killed by a fall from his horse. Lilian has been killed by a fall down a precipice, and her father by a fall from the table by brandy. Adrian has been "moulded out of faults" by fevers and gunshots, and Catherine by village clubs and blanket societies. None of this can be sanctioned by the moral world, unless on the ground that nearly all takes place amongst the very best society. For the rest, there is much good observation and good writing in the book; but as a work of art the story is hopelessly confused. It is retrospection run mad.

The story of "*Forbidden Fruit*" contains at least two stories, both illustrative of the text that people should be very cautious about marrying without love. Here is a brief idea of one. Maud Hazledean and Guy Coningham have been visitors at a country seat in Scotland, and on meeting again they make love in the following fashion. Guy is already a Major, under orders for India; Maud is little more than a school-girl, and under nobody's orders. Guy says:—

"It seems quite absurd that you should not know how, since I met you at Glenbracken's, you have been everything to me; perhaps I am not right in speaking that to you, but I have known it for so long, and the feeling grows on me every day, more and more, that all happiness for me on earth must come to me through you, Maud; you must know it: I love you, dear child; tell me, do you love me well enough to be my wife?"

She looked up, flushed with happiness, said simply—

"You know I do," and then, laying her head on his shoulder, burst into a shower of happy tears.

Then after a while—

"And you will love me always, Guy?" (the last word shrilly).

"Love you? Always—for ever—my white rose! how shall I leave you?"

"Leave me? Ah! I forgot. Oh, Guy! if you forget me, my heart will break."

He threw his arms round her, looked long and earnestly on the dear face, and pressed his lips to hers passionately. The eyes widened, then drooped, and the long lashes were heavy with tears, and she sighed out—

"You think I do not know; you think that I can ever marry anyone else? Oh, Guy, you do not know what you are saying. I have loved you ever since I first saw you. I have never looked at any other man since I met you at Lord Glenbracken's. Love you!" she threw her arms round his neck; "Guy, I shall love you till I die!"

By some chance Guy's letters from India miscarry. There is spread a false rumour that he has married at Madras, and Maud, in pique, marries a Scotch laird old enough to be her father. Guy, hearing this, remains true to his love, and fights in all the warfare of the last few years. Maud learns the mistake she has made, and cherishes an illicit passion for Guy, thinking herself very wicked but becoming very good friends with Guy's family. Of course, the old husband dies; and some twelve months after, Guy, happening to be in the neighbourhood, marries her with an astounding amount of youthful enthusiasm, considering that he must be getting well on towards probable retirement from the active service of his profession. But, in the meantime, Maud has been plentifully played with and lectured by a Lady Helen, who has married Sir James Danvers for the sake of a home and society. But Helen contrives to get up an attachment for one George Paget, a thorough rogue, who returns her passion, and under whose influence Helen "falls." The "fall" is thus beautifully described:—

"Look!" said Lady Helen, presently; "what a bright, beautiful star! Did you see, George, it seemed actually to move?"

"Yes, I see," said Paget, absently looking at her. "Helen, do you remember, this is our last evening?"

"Ah!" and her eyes filled with tears, "as if I could forget it! Oh, George! why do you go?"

"But I need not," he cried fiercely; "tell me, do you love me truly? Helen, must I leave you? I cannot. Come with me, my darling; think of the long years of happiness—together!"

"Oh, no, no. I cannot! George, do not ask me, do not tempt me to this wickedness," and she hid her face in her hands.

"Then you do not love me?" he cried, with a sudden pain, and he sank back on the cushions.

"I do not love you? Oh, George, dearest, I love you too much! Alas, that I have learned to love so truly!"

She sobbed passionately. He drew her to him—closer—closer, bending over her as he whispered, low and fondly,

"Darling, must I leave you now?"

A sudden gust of wind bowed the tall trees; the white clouds passed rapidly over the moon's disc, and the "bright, beautiful star," with a start and shiver, fell silently, swiftly, across the blue vault of heaven, and was lost in the darkness of space!

For the morality: Sir James Danvers refuses to challenge Paget, on the ground that he (Danvers) having sworn to Helen's father to protect her, had married her simply for immediate gratification long before she knew anything about love. Paget, being unable to get Helen to "fly" with him, accepts Danvers's offer of no duel, and does not commit suicide because he is softened by adversity, and knows that Helen would not like it. But he joins the Italian army of Victor Emmanuel, and is shot at Capua. Helen, in the meantime, goes to lead a pious and useful life with Guy and Maud, and dies on the morning that Paget's death is announced in the papers, but before she has seen the announcement. Her death is sympathetic and her love is holy. The various details of the story need not be touched upon. There are people with pure love, and disappointed and revengeful mistresses. With them it is unnecessary to deal. But it is impossible to refrain from recording the opinion that most of the characters in this joint story are made to act most immoral parts, cleverly glossed over, and leading to a false, immoral ending. The kind of writing may be guessed. Long conversations, dull as long, pervade the entire book. Everybody talking his or her love affairs to everybody else. It is as unlike society as the least imaginative South Sea Islander could make it, and would excite no sentiments except in boys of ten and girls of sixteen, and those would be improper sentiments. And all is mixed up with page after page of the cheapest morality—much of it so cheap that it is natural instinct never rising into knowledge—of a kind which might thrill minor theatrical audiences when oratorically enunciated by an everyday Peppercorn.

But perhaps, as in the case of "*Adrian L'Etrange*," the counterfeit morality may pass current through bearing the stamp of the very best society; and, moreover, nearly all the moral people in "*Forbidden Fruit*" derive their names from the immaculate Scottish peerage.

THE ORDNANCE QUESTION.

THE Select Committee appointed by the House of Commons to inquire into the expenditure on improved ordnance since 1858, and the results, have just issued their report. They state that as the expenditure has been almost altogether on the manufacture of Armstrong guns, their inquiry has been practically limited, and they find that altogether £2,539,547 has been paid, of which £1,067,734 has been paid to the Elswick Ordnance Company, while the expenditure at Woolwich has been £1,471,733. According to a statement by Mr. Whiffles, one of the Assistant-Accountants General of the War Office, there would have been a saving on these portions of the Elswick work, which admitted of comparison with Woolwich, of £242,173 on an expenditure of £393,275 had the work been done at Woolwich; but the evidence on this point was conflicting, and the Committee, looking at the pressure for guns, cannot impute the wisdom of the course adopted by General Peel, and followed by succeeding Administrations, with respect to the Elswick Company.

As to the results of this large expenditure, the Committee report that the 12-pounder, although stated by some of the witnesses to be too complicated a weapon for service, is generally approved of. It appears to the Committee that the Armstrong field-gun is the best known for field purposes. Out of 570 issued for use, 13 have been returned for repair, and three have proved unserviceable; but the remainder were repairable at inconsiderable expense. The 110-pounders, though useful as chase-guns, ought not to be admitted as broadside-guns; but it is considered by men of eminence in their profession as a valuable weapon in its present proportion to the armament of a ship. For close quarters nothing is better than the 68-pounder, which is the most effective gun in the service against iron plates. The Committee, remarking on the doubts as to the delicacy of the weapon and its liability to get out of order, refer to the experience of China to show that there was no difficulty in keeping the gun in order in any weather. The testimony as to the Armstrong shell was universally favourable—it was the most destructive weapon ever used against wooden ships. The time-fuzes, however, were uncertain, and had been condemned.

Without expressing an opinion as to various controverted questions, the Committee express a hope that the different systems, not only the Armstrong and Whitworth, but those of other able men now engaged on ordnance questions, may be fairly experimented upon. No restricted trials can be satisfactory. They also recommend a uniform system of accounts for the manufacturing departments at Woolwich, so that the cost of guns and other produce may be clearly ascertained, and they point, in support of this recommendation, to the embarrassment occasioned by the want of such means of comparison with regard to the Elswick Company.

OBITUARY.

THE EARL OF MORNINGTON.—This nobleman died on Saturday last, on the Continent. The deceased was son of the fourth Earl by his first wife, Miss Tynley Long, eldest daughter and coheir of Sir James Tynley Long, Bart. His Lordship was born at Wanstead House in 1813, and succeeded to the family honours on the demise of his father in 1857. The late Earl left an only sister, and the title devolves upon his cousin, the Duke of Wellington.

LORD DOWNES.—General Lord Downes, G.C.B., expired at his seat, Bart House, Kildare, on Sunday morning last, in the 75th year of his age. The deceased Lord entered the Army at an early age, and served as Aide-de-Camp to Sir John Craik in Portugal, and subsequently in the same capacity and as assistant military secretary to the Duke of Wellington during the whole of the Peninsular War. Few men were then better known than Sir James Burgh. He was present at the battles of Talavera (wounded), Busaco, Fuentes d'Aonor, El Bodon, Salamanca (wounded), Vittoria, Pyrenes, Nivelle, Nive, Toulouse, and the sieges of Badajoz, Ciudad Rodrigo, and San Sebastian. In 1826 he succeeded his cousin as second Baron, soon after which he was elected a Representative Peer, and was Clerk to the Ordnance during the Wellington Administration. Lord Downes was twice married, and by his first marriage leaves an only surviving daughter, the Countess of Clonmel. The title is now extinct, and the colonelcy of the 29th Regiment vacant.

CAPTAIN J. S. WILLES JOHNSON, M.P.—A vacancy has occurred in the representation of the Montgomery district of boroughs by the death of Captain John Samuel Wiles Johnson, R.N., M.P. The hon. and gallant member died on Saturday last, at Hanington Hall, Highworth, Wilts, after a protracted illness, from which cause he had absented himself from the House during the late Session.

SIR HUGH HALKETT.—Sir Hugh Halkett, C.B., a Peninsular and Waterloo veteran, and brother of the famous Sir Colin Halkett, died in Hanover, in the army of which country he held a high rank.

THE HARVEST.—Although the weather at the latter part of last week was somewhat stormy, the crops have been injured to only a slight extent; the advantages accruing, on the other hand, from the refreshing influences of the rain being very great. In Kent and the neighbouring counties reaping has begun in earnest, corn of all kinds being in process of gathering; and in Sussex the farmers have been exhibiting wonderfully good samples, wheat in Guildford market being shown on Saturday week last weighing 64½ lb. to the bushel. The disease in the potatoes is very confined, and the grass has greatly shared in the advantages of the late wet weather, an unusually good second crop being expected.

RETALIATION IN THE SOUTH.—The *Richmond Dispatch* of the 7th ult. says:—"In the Libby Prison, yesterday, by order of General Winder, the captives among the Yankee prisoners drew lots for two of their number to be shot, in retaliation for the shooting of Captain Corbin and McGraw by General Burnside, at Sandusky, Ohio, on the 15th of May last. The prisoners were assembled in a room, at twelve o'clock, by Captain Turner, the Commandant of the prison, and, after being formed in a hollow square round a table, were informed of the order of General Winder. Slips of paper, each containing the name of one of the officers present, were carefully folded up and deposited on the table. Captain Turner then informed the men that they might select whom they pleased to draw the names, and the first two names drawn would indicate those to be shot. The lots were drawn by the Rev. Mr. Brown, amidst a silence almost deathlike. The first ballot drawn contained the name of Captain Sawyer, of the 1st New Jersey Cavalry; the second that of Captain Filton, of the 51st Indiana Volunteers. The day of their execution has not yet been fixed."

A USEFUL INVENTION.—Under this title a contemporary describes a contrivance which will enable the guard, and if necessary the passengers, in a train to communicate instantaneously with the engine-driver. The invention differs from all former plans in use in England by substituting the agency of electricity for mechanical force. A small instrument, worked by a voltaic battery is placed close to the handle of the engine whistle, the connection with the guard being maintained by an electric wire running on the top, underneath, or through the carriage. This wire is fitted with a spring coupling between each carriage, so that it may be, if desired, a fixture on each of them. The communication is, of course, instantaneous, and seems adapted to meet every kind of mishap that may occur to a train, because any disconnection of the wire with the guard's van, whether arising from negligence or accident, sets the whistle going at once. Should a train become detached in going up an incline, or should any one of the couplings not have been connected, the driver is at once warned of it. In order to prevent any unnecessary whistling when a carriage is added to or removed from the train, a small handle is provided, which the driver draws out about an inch, and which not only cuts off the communication with the train, but at the same time blocks the handle of the whistle. This arrangement compels the driver, before he can whistle in starting his train, to replace the electric communication. The instrument is comparatively cheap, and not liable to get out of order easily. All that is required is that the battery should occasionally be replenished. There is nothing to prevent the communication being made available from every compartment, though it is a question for railway managers how far power should be given to every passenger of stopping a train.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Several changes have taken place in the House of Commons during the Session which has just closed. A day or two after the assembly of Parliament the Hon. Colonel Bernal, member for Bandon, died, and was succeeded by Mr. Bernard, his son; on the 7th of February Captain Gladstone, R.N., the member for Devizes, died, and was succeeded by the Hon. W. Addington. In consequence of Sir Michael Seymour's retirement, Mr. Ferrand was early in February returned for the borough of Devonport. By the elevation of the Hon. Mr. Monson to the peerage, a vacancy occurred in the representation of the borough of Reading, and Mr. Leveson Gower was elected. Mr. Andrew Stuart resigned the representation of the borough of Cambridge, and Mr. F. S. Powell was elected. Shortly after the meeting of Parliament Mr. Moody retired from the representation of West Somerset, and Mr. Gore Langton was elected his successor. For Lisburn Mr. Barbour was elected, in the room of Mr. Richardson, but, being unseated, Mr. Verner was elected. In February, Mr. H. W. Creeland retired from the representation of the borough of Oldchester, and was succeeded by Mr. J. Abel Smith. On the 25th of May the representation of Thetford became vacant by the elevation of the Earl of Epsom to the dukedom of Grafton; Lord P. Fitzroy was elected in his place. The Hon. General Upton, on succeeding to the Irish peerage as Viscount Templemore, rendered vacant the representation of Antrim, and Mr. O'Neill was elected. By the death of Sir G. C. Lewis on the 14th of April the representation of the Radnorshire boroughs became vacant; Mr. B. Green Price was elected. Mr. Hamilton in April resigned the representation of the county of Dublin, and was succeeded by his son, Mr. Ion Hamilton. Early in May Mr. O'Hagan, the Attorney-General for Ireland, was elected for Tralee, in the room of Mr. Daniel O'Connell. By the death of Mr. Western Wood, on the 17th of May, a vacancy took place in the representation of the city of London, and Mr. G. J. Gieschen was elected. Late in May Mr. Tottenham resigned the representation of New Ross, and was succeeded by Colonel Tottenham. Early in June Sir John Arnott retired from the representation of Kinsale, and was succeeded by Sir George Colthurst. In the same month the representation of Berwick-upon-Tweed became vacant by the death of Captain Gordon; Mr. W. W. Cargill was elected.

LAW AND CRIME.
THE ROUPPELL CASE.

The cause of "Rouppell and Another v. Haws and Others" has been one of the most extraordinary trials in our time. To detail the evidence by which the trial was protracted over a period of eight days would alone suffice to fill a volume. We can, therefore, necessarily only offer a brief epitome of the case as narrated on one side and the other.

The facts embody a curious family history. The founder of the family, commonly known as "Old Rouppell," was a dealer in lead, popularly suspected of keeping a melting-pot ever ready for the fusion of metal goods of which the continued identity might be undesirable to his customers. In fact, he is at least currently believed to have been a notorious and successful receiver of stolen goods, artful enough to keep himself beyond the clutch of the law while amassing enormous wealth. This it was neither within his will or his capacity to enjoy, and he left the whole to his son, Richard Palmer Rouppell, whose most remarkable trait appears to have been the hereditary one of insatiable avarice. He sacrificed his love and the honour of the mother of his children to his "expectations." When at length old Rouppell died, Richard P. Rouppell was the father of two sons, John and William. He then married their mother, by whom he had subsequent issue, Richard Rouppell, the plaintiff in this action. William Rouppell, it is well known, is now undergoing sentence as a confessed forger and perjurer. He has admitted stealing and destroying the will of his late father, forging and swearing to a counterfeit, by which the whole property was bequeathed to his mother, and forging a previous deed of gift by which a certain portion was made over to himself. But, whatever may be his position, it must be remembered that not one of these offences has been proved against him. He was his own accuser; he obliterated the necessity of evidence by a plea of guilty. He had then nothing to lose, for he had made away with the whole of his ill-acquired property, and was a ruined man, bankrupt already in reputation and fortune. He had squandered all that he could grasp of the enormous "Rouppell Estate." The only chance of recovering any portion of it to his mother and his family lay in his showing the invalidity of the deeds by which he had acquired it.

Among the property alienated by William Rouppell was an estate of his late father, known as the Warley Estate. To this, William Rouppell had claimed a title under the deed of gift, which he alone had after wards come forward to denounce as a forgery. He had obtained upon the security of this property a large sum of money from the widow and orphans of a deceased officer, whose whole estate was invested upon this supposed security. The amount advanced was not repaid, and the mortgagees, defendants in this action, entered into possession.

Under these circumstances, the claim of the plaintiff, Richard Rouppell, was based chiefly upon evidence as to his own legitimacy, and the fact of the will of which probate had been obtained being a forgery. These facts were scarcely disputed. It would then have been for the defendants to establish the execution of the deed of gift to William, the mortgagee. The plaintiffs anticipated this defence, and opposed to it the testimony of the convict, who swore that he had himself forged the deed and obtained the signatures of the attesting witnesses by a trick in misleading them to suppose that they were actually verifying his own execution of the indenture. William Rouppell's evidence was received with all due discredit. It was considered only so far as confirmed. But on the part of the plaintiff numerous witnesses testified to their belief in the signature of R. P. Rouppell to the deed being a forgery. On the other side, witnesses, equally numerous and credible, declared their belief in its genuineness. Who was to decide? Any single person might have declared his opinion on either side, and such opinion would most probably have been wrong, as would in all likelihood be that of any man deciding upon a balance of evidence insufficient upon either side. The jury disagreed, as might have been expected from any twelve conscientious men. Individuals among them, each clinging to his own view, differed from others, and thus exhibited that uncertainty in the aggregate which, had they been wiser, any one of them might, perhaps, have exemplified in his own single mind. Upon the questions of the forgery of the will and the non attestation of the deed, as repounded, they appear to have been agreed. But these were, as to the great point, of small import. The chief issue was the due execution of the deed. Upon this the jury found it impossible to coincide. They were therefore discharged.

It now remains for us to point out the effect of such discharge, which has been somewhat misrepresented by some of our contemporaries. It does not, as has been stated, necessitate the institution of proceedings *de novo*. It leaves the cause simply as it was before set down for trial. The venue may be, and probably by this time has been, changed, and the cause may be tried on some other circuit during the present Assize. In any event, the same action may again be set down for trial. There is, however, another point on which, in our opinion, there has been some misconception on the part of an influential journal. Our leading contemporary assumes, with some reason, that the jury were prepared to decide that, supposing the deed to have been actually signed, as it purported, by R. P. Rouppell, his signature had been obtained by fraud, and in ignorance on his part of the effect of the deed. Our contemporary argues, therefore, that the verdict should have been against the deed. On this point we have a word to say. There was no such allegation on the plaintiff's part. His case was distinctly that the signature was forged. There was not a shade of evidence to prove that the donor had been tricked into a signature. The witnesses may have been so, and it is easy to imagine that William Rouppell might have as easily obtained his father's signature as theirs. But he swears positively to the forgery. Disbelieve his evidence, and how stands the deed? The attestation forms no necessary part of it. Grant the signature to be genuine, and the jury has only hypothetical ground for presumption of fraud in obtaining it. The deed may be set aside upon evidence of its having been executed in consequence of fraud or even of error; but where upon the whole evidence is there the slightest proof of error or fraud in obtaining this signature? The plaintiff's entire case is based upon the contradiction, and not in the slightest degree upon an explanation of its

execution. Had the jury taken upon themselves to deliver a verdict upon such an assumption, we have not the slightest hesitation in pronouncing that the verdict might have been afterwards set aside as being in direct opposition to the evidence. The execution of a deed is a strong and sufficient presumptive evidence, as against the executant, of his knowledge of the contents and effect of such deed. Such evidence is conclusive until the contrary be proved, and in this case disproof was not even attempted, and it could not have been, even had the executant been living, without the most positive and powerfully corroborated evidence. Mr. Rouppell's presumption of fraud avails nothing against an executed deed. Indeed, it might in this instance be met in a dozen different ways. Richard Palmer Rouppell might even have signed the deed at his son's instance, as many such a deed has been signed before, for the mere purpose of giving a Parliamentary qualification. He might have trusted to a false representation by his son that unless executed in the presence of attesting witnesses it would be void for all other purposes. But it might, nevertheless, be good as against purchasers for valuable consideration without notice. Still the only warrantable presumption upon the face of the deed is that of its validity until clearly disproved by evidence of fraud or forgery. Of the latter the jury reasonably express a doubt; of the former, evidence is wholly wanting.

POLICE.

MRS. WELSH TRILING LIES.—William Welsh, an Irish labourer, living in Jennings-buildings, Kensington, was charged with kicking his wife.

The complainant, whose face exhibited considerable marks of violence, commenced telling the magistrate that it was all her own fault. She said that on Monday night she was intoxicated, and when her husband returned home he was not sober. He wanted some money and she had not the means of doing so, and he had taken her by the neck of the neck and on to her face.

Mr. Self.—You are telling lies, Mrs. Welsh.

The Complainant—I beg your pardon, your Worship, I am not.

Mr. Self.—I beg your pardon, you are. You charged your husband last night with kicking you.

The Complainant—I was so tipsy that I do not know how I got the bruises. I was in bed when he came home. The prisoner said it was his first offence, and he hoped his Worship would look over it. He also said that he had been out drinking with his wife.

Mr. Self said, in the olden time, when a person pleaded guilty to drunkenness double punishment was awarded. He was not going to overlook a case of kicking a woman with a boot. He wished him to explain how she received the bruises on her face.

The prisoner said he was going to bed, and he trod on her face.

Mr. Self fined him 20s., or one month's imprisonment, and said that it would probably keep him from drinking.

AN EXTRAORDINARY DISPUTE.—William Metcalfe, engineer at the Waterloo-road Fire-engine Station, appeared to a summons charging him with using threatening language to Lieutenant Becker, superintendent of Messrs. Rodger's volunteer fire brigade.

Mr. L. Lewis appeared for the complainant; Mr. Ford for the defendant.

Mr. Lewis stated that Mr. Rodger's fire brigade had been established since 1851, and had been maintained at the expense of that gentleman. The complainant, Lieutenant Becker (who holds that commission as a volunteer) had had the superintendence of the brigade since 1861. He had received commendation from distinguished personages. His sole desire was to assist in the protection of life and property, and to act in unison with the regular Fire Brigade. On the 21st of July there was a large fire in Belgrave-road, and it would be necessary for him now to explain that the first and second engines at a fire receive 50s. each, but the third only 10s. On the 21st Mr. Lieutenant Becker and his men were second at a fire, and had been at work three-quarters of an hour when defendant arrived with his engine. Lieutenant Becker was working at some out-houses in the rear of the premises, and, in order to pass the hose and pump where it would be more effective, threw a plank across a chasm 14 ft. broad and 25 ft. deep, and while doing so defendant came up with some planks, and threw them across the fire. Defendant then moved one of his planks, and struck Lieutenant Becker's foot, knocking it out of the hand of Hiltcheck, the foreman. Lieutenant Becker said, "Don't cut off our branch, Metcalfe," when the latter replied with a threat to take his (Lieutenant Becker's) life. The defendant then added, "I shan't take long to do it; so remember."

Lieutenant Becker and two witnesses supported this statement. After the threat had been used they declined to cross the plank, as they did not consider it safe, and therefore left off work, and the engine was taken home. Lieutenant Becker said he did not consider his life safe at the time of the threat, nor now, as injury might be done to him maliciously at any fire at which he might be engaged.

Mr. Arnold inquired whether it was necessary, after what had been said, to pursue to trial a case any further. A man might have made some observations in haste, and he suggested that they might now be withdrawn and an apology offered.

Mr. Ford said that the charge was thoroughly and totally denied.

The case was then adjourned.

A QUESTIONABLE CASE.—Nathaniel Hales, styling himself Sir Nathaniel Hales, Baronet, Lord Paramount of Lumbeth, Lord of the Honour of Bedford, claimant of vast estates in England and Wales, and a lineal descendant of King Edward, with John Thomas Brown, a respectable, connected young man, surrendered on remand, charged with conspiring to defraud the Rev. G. A. Dickinson out of £3 5s. and other sums. It appeared from the evidence that the Rev. pro-secutor had been for some time acquainted with the defendant Hales, and in January last advanced him £3 5s. on a bond, repayable, with 21s interest, on the recovery of any portion of his vast estates, among which Hales alleged was the property in the possession of Mr. Harvey, Lambeth House, Westminster-road. The bond was produced, and the Rev. gentleman swore that Hales had no claim on Mr. Harvey's premises, consequently he brought the present charge against the defendants, who were remanded on bail, as the Rev. Mr. Dickinson swore he should be able to obtain important evidence against the defendants. As soon as the latter made their appearance Mr. Edwin, the solicitor to the prosecution, communicated with his client, and shortly afterwards entered the court and told his Worship that his client had come to the determination not to proceed any further in the matter.

Mr. Combe observed that if such was the case the defendants would be liberated from the charges.

Mr. Chipperfield, solicitor for the defendant Brown, here entered the court and expressed his surprise at the withdrawal of the charges without notice being given to him by the other side. He was prepared with evidence to upset the whole of the prosecutor's testimony, and to show that he was a disreputable character, having attempted to raise money on Hales's name. Had the case been thoroughly investigated, Mr. Chipperfield would have been able to show that the prosecutor was the criminal, and not his client.

Mr. Combe said that he had perused certain documents handed in to him which did not reflect very highly on prosecutor's conduct, so he supposed he thought it best to let the matter drop to avoid an expense.

Mr. Chipperfield told his Worship that he was provided with evidence to show that the Rev. Mr. Dickinson had committed gross perjury at the last examination. Under these circumstances he was instructed to ask for a warrant against him for perjury. As far as Mr. Brown was concerned, he was a young man of high character, and to vindicate his honour he felt bound to proceed against Dickinson for perjury.

Mr. Combe at once granted the request, but the Rev. Mr. Dickinson had vanished. A summons was issued for his attendance to answer the charge on a future day.

AN OLD SWINDLER.—M. Albert, an interpreter, representing the Society for the Protection of Women, came before Alderman Sir R. Carden, who sat for the Lord Mayor, and stated that recently a young French lady, residing in Paris, wanted an English nurse, and put herself in communication with a person named Golder, who had advertised himself as director of "The London Catholic Institution," at College-street, Doughty-hill. A correspondence passed between the lady and him, and at length he professed to have found her a suitable nurse, and asked her to send him money for fees due to the institution on the transaction, and to pay the travelling expenses of the young woman to Paris. The lady transmitted him a draught for £10; but, although a month had elapsed, no nurse had arrived in Paris, nor had the lady heard anything more from M. Golder, though she had repeatedly written to him, asking for an explanation. M. Albert had made inquiry into the subject at the address given of the so-called Catholic Institution, in College-street. He found that it was a private house; that some weeks ago two foreigners called there and asked to see a room, which they did not engage; but the lady, at their request, undertook, for a week, to receive letters which might be addressed to them there. Since that time she had received a great number of letters, as many as 120 in a week, occasionally addressed "T. Golder and Co.," chiefly from places on the Continent, and all of them in the handwriting of ladies. The two men had not been at the house in College-street during the last fortnight, nor had they left any address. The attention of people on the Continent was apt to be attracted by a pretentious address, such as had been given in this case; and he thought it probable that many of the letters might have been sent from deception.

Sir R. Carden expressed his obligation to the applicant for the communication he had made, and said that the object would probably be answered by the publicity which would be given to the matter by the press. He added that it was a very common trick, and that in his experience he never knew a real swindler. He was only surprised that people in Paris or elsewhere could be so easily duped as to part with their money on such flimsy pretences.

UNLICENSED PLAYS.—Frederick Fredericks appeared before Mr. Ingham to answer three summonses for performing certain stage plays, called "The Bleeding Nun," "The Golden Bawn," and "The Devil's Grap." In a booth called the Princess Alexandra Theatre, which was not duly licensed. Mr. Wilson appeared for the defendant, and pleaded "Not guilty."

Sergeant Kempter said that on the night of the 16th ult. he visited the theatre, in a fair held in Spring-place, Wandsworth-road. He was in plain clothes, and paid one penny for admission. A tragedy was performed, which was called "The Bleeding Nun," in two acts.

The description of the tragedy caused some amusement. It consisted of robbers in a castle, a wedding in a wood, and a combat in which some of the parties were stabbed.

Inspector Atcock said the defendant told him that he had taken the ground for the fair in partnership with another man, and that he had a licence for the theatre.

The defence was that the defendant had nothing to do with the theatre; and Thomas Carroll, one of the "leading" performers in "The Bleeding Nun," was called to prove that he was engaged by a Miss Jovell.

Sergeant Kempter stated that he paid the defendant the money for admission, and that he was taking money at the doors.

Mr. Ingham amended the summonses by adding the word "cause," and convicted the defendant in a penalty of £10, or three months' imprisonment in default of distress.

The other summonses were dismissed.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

CONSOLIDATED BANKING.—The state of affairs in Poland and America has continued to excite all speculative operations, and the demand for money to meet the public has been very moderate. Consols have risen 1/2; Reduced and New Three per Cents, 1/2; 3 per Cents, 1/2; 4 per Cents, 1/2; 5 per Cents, 1/2; 6 per Cents, 1/2; 7 per Cents, 1/2; 8 per Cents, 1/2; 9 per Cents, 1/2; 10 per Cents, 1/2; 11 per Cents, 1/2; 12 per Cents, 1/2; 13 per Cents, 1/2; 14 per Cents, 1/2; 15 per Cents, 1/2; 16 per Cents, 1/2; 17 per Cents, 1/2; 18 per Cents, 1/2; 19 per Cents, 1/2; 20 per Cents, 1/2; 21 per Cents, 1/2; 22 per Cents, 1/2; 23 per Cents, 1/2; 24 per Cents, 1/2; 25 per Cents, 1/2; 26 per Cents, 1/2; 27 per Cents, 1/2; 28 per Cents, 1/2; 29 per Cents, 1/2; 30 per Cents, 1/2; 31 per Cents, 1/2; 32 per Cents, 1/2; 33 per Cents, 1/2; 34 per Cents, 1/2; 35 per Cents, 1/2; 36 per Cents, 1/2; 37 per Cents, 1/2; 38 per Cents, 1/2; 39 per Cents, 1/2; 40 per Cents, 1/2; 41 per Cents, 1/2; 42 per Cents, 1/2; 43 per Cents, 1/2; 44 per Cents, 1/2; 45 per Cents, 1/2; 46 per Cents, 1/2; 47 per Cents, 1/2; 48 per Cents, 1/2; 49 per Cents, 1/2; 50 per Cents, 1/2; 51 per Cents, 1/2; 52 per Cents, 1/2; 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SUMMER SILKS for 1863, Striped, Checked, and Figured, from 1s. 10s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.
 Patterns free.—D. LONSDALE and CO., 29, 31, Aldgate, E.

SUMMER DRESSES for 1863—Mothers, Muslins, Greenlines—
 from 6s. 9d. to 40s.
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SILKS—SILKS—SILKS!
 Patterns post-free.
 Black Glacé Silks, wide width, from 2s. 6d. per yard.
 Black Gros Grain Glaces (now much in demand).
 Black Duchesse, Gros Grain, &c., all of the best make for wear.
 Fancy Stripes, at 3s. 6d., 12 yards, all bright.
 Wide-width Gros Grain, all the new colours, 33s. 12 yards.
 Fancy Stripes (much worn), wide width, all new shades, 33s. 6d. 12 yards.
 These are worth 3s. 6d. per yard.
 Rich Plain Glaces, wide width, 3s. 6d. per yard.
 New Brooches, 16 yards for 5s. 6d.
 New Chinese, good, 3s. 6d. per yd., wide width; normal price, 4s. 3d.
 JAMES SPENCE and CO., Wholesale and Retail Silk Merchants, Drapers, &c., 77 and 78, St. Paul's-churchyard.
 Close on Saturdays at Five o'clock.

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 SEWELL and CO. have the largest selection of Moires Antiques, in White, Blue, and all the new Colours, at 14 guineas the Dress.
 Compton House, Fritch-street, Soho, W.

PROMENADE, EVENING, and BALL DRESSES. New and exclusive Patterns for the present season; the Skirts made and trimmed complete.
 Sewell and Co.
 Invite Ladies to inspect a beautiful collection of Evening Costumes, in Tulle, Tulle, and other light Fabrics. Now ready, in their Evening Dress Room, Compton House, Fritch-street, Soho.

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REDMAYNE and CO. respectfully announce that their BUSINESS is now CARRIED ON at 35, Conduit-street.

GRATIS.—A NEW ILLUSTRATED BOOK. PORTRAITS of Eighteen Eminent Persons across the Engravings which represent the Clothing supplied ready-made or made to measure. It contains also explanatory pages, prices, and rules for self-measurement. Free, on application to SAMUEL BROTHERS, 39, LUDGATE HILL.

SHIRTS.—FORD'S EUREKA SHIRTS.
 The superior fit and quality of these shirts are well known. 30s. 3s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. each. A measure and instruction for measurement sent post-free.—R. Ford and Co., 35, Fenchurch-street.

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SALVEO PEDES.—Thousands of sufferers with tender feet would do anything for relief. The remedy will be found by using ANGUS LEITCH'S SALVEO PEDES; the relief is instantaneous, and the effect permanent. Sold by all chemists and perfumers. Wholesale, 13, Little Britain, and Bury and Sons, 95, Fenchurch-street, London. Price 2s. 6d. a bottle.

EDWARD ROBSON'S
 CABINET, UPHOLSTERY, AND GENERAL FURNISHING WAREHOUSE,
 133 and 135, OXFORD-STREET, LONDON, N.
 FURNITURE TO THE AMOUNT OF £5 AND UPWARDS SENT CARRIAGE-FREE TO ANY RAILWAY STATION IN ENGLAND.
 Terms, Net Cash, on or before Delivery.

DRAWING-ROOM SUITES comprising SIX CHAIRS, ONE COUCH, and TWO EASY-CHAIRS, at EDWARD ROBSON'S.

CHIMNEY GLASSES, with Gilt Frames and British Plates—Size of plate, 50 by 40—from 4s. 10s.
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MAHOGANY TELESCOPE DINING TABLES, on Brass Casters, French Polished, from 23 10s.
 At EDWARD ROBSON'S.

MARBLE-TOP WASH STANDS, with Mahogany Frames, Half-circle, from 1 guinea.
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IRON BEDSTEADS, from 7s. 6d. IRON Cots, 4 ft. 6 in. 11s. 6d.
 At EDWARD ROBSON'S.

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 At EDWARD ROBSON'S.

KIDDERMINSTER CARPETS, Yard Wide, from 1s. 11d. per yard.
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TAPESTRY CARPETS, from 3s. 6d. per yard.
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HARNESS MUSLIN CURTAINS, from 3s. 11d. per pair.
 NOTTINGHAM Lace edging, from 3s. 11d. per pair.
 At EDWARD ROBSON'S.

MILITARY CANTEENS for Officers, £8 each, Oak Case, containing the following:—
 FLATED SPOONS AND FORKS. Brought forward — £5 5s
 4 Table spoons .. 0 12 0
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 6 Dessert spoons .. 0 12 0
 6 Dessert forks .. 0 12 0
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 3 Egg spoons .. 0 12 0
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 Carried forward, £5 5s
 Complete — £8 0s
 Every other size and pattern in stock.

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GARDNERS' £2 2s. DINNER SERVICES complete, best quality. Breakfast, Dessert, Tea, and Toilet Services equally low. Cut Wines, 3s. 6d. per dozen. Cut Decanters (Quart), 7s. 6d. per pair. Military and Naval Supplies. Illustrated Catalogue free post.—H. and J. Gardner, by appointment to Her Majesty, Strand, Charing-cross (four doors from Trafalgar-square), London, W.C. Established 1752.

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 Brooches of RICHARD A. GREEN'S manufacture, £2, priced from 4s. 10s. in 16-carat gold, with first-class workmanship. Price from 4s. 10s. to £20. Catalogue Drawings forwarded post-free.

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 An extensive and complete stock. The best manufacture and lowest price. DEANE and CO.'S PATENT BATHS on RAILS and BATHING, gratis on application and post-free. It contains engravings, with prices of Shower, Hip, Flushing, Spraying, Nursery, and every description of Bath for family use. Shower Baths of improved construction. Pale Gas Baths, simple, efficient, and economical. Estimates given for fitting up Bathrooms. DEANE and CO. (the Monument), London Bridge. Established A.D. 1790.

RECKITT'S DIAMOND BLACK LEAD, Cleaner and Cheaper than all others.
 Sold by Oulmen, Grocer, Ironmonger, &c.
 Reckitt and Son, London Bridge, E.C. and Hull.

BROWN and POLSON'S PATENT CORN FLOUR.
 The genuine quality is signed by the makers upon 4lb. and 11lb. packets "John Brown and Co." and "John Polson." Inferior half-price quantities closely resemble Brown and Polson's.

OSWEGO PREPARED CORN, for Puddings, Custards, Blamange, &c.
 Manufactured and Perfected by T. KINGSFORD and SON, of Oswego, State of New York.
 It is the Original Preparation from the Farm of Maine, established 1845, commands the highest price from the Trade, and offers the best value to the Consumer.
 It is a purer stronger than any of the imitations, has a finer grain, and is more delicate.
 The Oswego has the natural golden tinge, and not the chalk white produced by artificial process.
 Agents—Kean, Robinson, Bellville, and Co., Garlick-hill, London; William Bosler and Co., 45, Piccadilly, Manchester.

KEEN'S GENUINE MUSTARD.
 There are many qualities of Mustard sold. Obtain Keen's Genuine Mustard and full approval is guaranteed. First Manufactured 1742.
 Sold by the Trade from the Cheek, and in 1lb and 4lb Cansisters. KEEN, ROBINSON, BELLVILLE, and CO., Garlick-hill, London.

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 Manufactured by T. Mobson and Son, 19 and 41, Southampton-row, W. 11, Regent-street, W.C., in bottles at 3s. 6d. and 10s. 6d.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Health and long life may be had by keeping the bowels pure and the liver healthy, and the system in a healthy state. To obtain the true Holloway's Pills, send 1d. in postage, and a 2d. stamp, to the

5000 CHURCH SERVICES, from 4s. 6d.
 Elegantly Mounted.
 4000 Pocket, Few, and Family Bibles, 1s. to 3 guineas.
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FOR FAMILY ARMS send Name and County to CULLETON'S HERALDIC LIBRARY, 15, Dean Street, 3s. 6d.; in Colours, 7s. 6d.; Arms, Crest, and Motto, beautifully painted, 12s.; sent free for stamps. No charge for engraving dies with crest, motto, monogram, or address, if an order is given for a set of the best paper, and 400 best envelopes to match, at 21s., all stamped free of charge. Coloured Monograms and Crests for Albums, 1s. per sheet. T. Culleton, Seal Engraver, 25, Cranbourne-street (corner of St. Martin's-lane), W.C.

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 NOTICE OF REMOVAL.
 In consequence of the immediate Extension of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway across Ludgate-hill, the Committee have been compelled to REMOVE their OFFICES to 100, FLEET-STREET, where, from this date, all communications are to be addressed.
 By Order of the Committee,
 May 5, 1863. HENRY W. GREEN, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS, by Road, River, or Railway, in the Field, the Streets, or at Home, may be provided against by taking a policy of the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY, 64, Cornhill, London. £140,000 has been already paid as compensation.
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 Railway Passengers' Assurance Company, empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 1849. WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

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 49, Great Ormond-street.—Many hundreds of out-patients receive advice and medicine free weekly, and the fifty-two beds are constantly occupied. CONTRIBUTIONS are very earnestly solicited.
 Bankers—Williams, Deacon, and Co.;